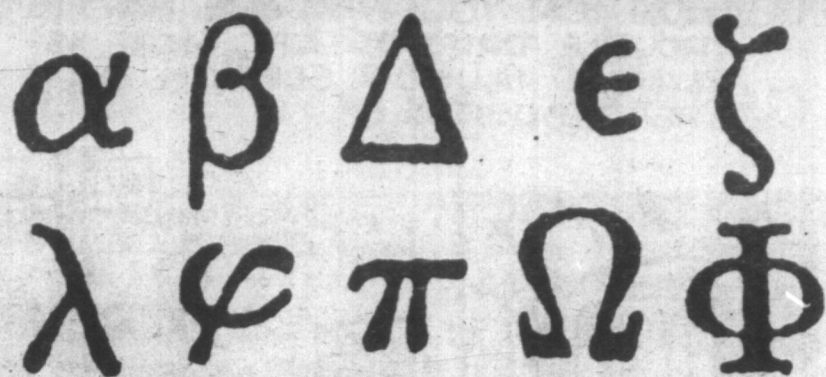


Greek scholar's final assignment translates into retirement



By Elizabeth Watson

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Ask any theology student who has attended Southwestern Seminary in the past 37 years which professor most impacted his life, and the answer is likely to be, "Curtis Vaughan."

Vaughan is retiring from Southwestern here, where since 1950 he has transferred his love for Greek to students as professor of New Testament. He and his wife, Frances, will move to North Carolina this summer.

Vaughan's personal love for Greek is rooted in a childhood love for the Bible.

"One of the most influential things in my life was a birthday gift my oldest sister gave me," Vaughan said. "She gave me a Bible when I was just a kid. It was the first book I ever own-

ed. It was mine. Because it was mine, I wanted to read it."

Through reading that Bible Vaughan felt God's call to ministry, he said, noting, "That gift nurtured my Christian life."

Another major influence was Vaughan's college Greek professor, R.E. Guy, he said: "Dr. Guy's classes were the high points of my days. He was such a superb master of the Greek language."

"He was the most demanding teacher I've ever known — but he made me love Greek," Vaughan said. "If you don't love Greek, you won't study it."

Vaughan recalled attending his first Greek class as a student. "I held a Greek New Testament in my hand as

I recited the Greek alphabet for the first time at Union University," he said.

"I remember the thrill I felt knowing that in my hand was a New Testament written in the very language of the apostles. I just had to learn more Greek. It gave me such a sense of wonder," he said.

At Southwestern Vaughan met Ray Summers, his primary Greek professor. "Although as a seminary student there were several professors I admired and respected, Dr. Ray Summers exerted a great influence on my life," Vaughan said.

Summers, retired chairman of the department of religion at Baylor University, was professor of New Testament at Southwestern from 1948 to 1953.

The same influence Summers had on Vaughan, Vaughan has had on at least five of Southwestern's eight New Testament professors, including Tom Urry.

Urry echoed the opinions of each when he said, "More than anyone else, Curtis Vaughan has been the largest positive influence in my life."

Outside the classroom, Vaughan has been interim pastor of 22 churches, two in West Germany. "I like to make the Bible understandable for the person in the pew," he said.

But Vaughan's biggest impact on Southern Baptists and Christians around the world may be as an author. He has written six commentaries covering nine New Testament books and co-written commentaries on Romans and 1 Corinthians and a Greek

grammar. He was general editor of "The New Testament from 26 Translations" and the two volumes of "The Old Testament from 26 Translations."

Vaughan was an executive member of the review committee for the New King James Version New Testament and has contributed to various commentaries, convention study courses, and theology journals. More than 700,000 copies of his books have been sold.

Despite these accomplishments, Vaughan remains a shy professor. "I look upon teaching at Southwestern as just about the highest and holiest privilege I could ever expect," he said.

"I count it as a very, very sacred stewardship God gave me."

Elizabeth Watson writes for Southwestern Seminary.

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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Published Since 1877

Yazoo City gardeners reap harvest for others

By Vernon Sikes

There's a man and his wife who have a garden in Yazoo City, which really isn't at all uncommon in the South where gardens are so plentiful as people sitting on porches in the cool of the evening.

This garden is a little different, though.

Most gardeners take great pleasure in neatly lining their pantry shelves with endless rows of Mason jars filled with the bounty of their harvests, but the harvests gathered from this Yazoo City garden go onto pantry shelves and into freezers of Yazooans who could use a little extra help.

"We've been doing this for years," commented the gardener when approached about the prospect of featuring his garden; "and my wife and I don't mind the garden being mentioned, but we don't want our names used. We work this garden because we can help people, not for any publicity we can get out of it."

"This is a project that actually came about as something of a spin-off of a Sunday School project that was started several years ago here at First Baptist Church," he said.

"We're aware that there are a lot of people around Yazoo County who can benefit from our garden, and it gives us pleasure to be able to give produce to people who could use a little relief from today's high cost of living."

The husband-and-wife team makes it their business to locate families who could use a little help; and whenever they do, they see to it that those families receive whatever they need for as long as they need it.

It isn't easy work, of course. Whenever the vegetables start "coming in," there's at least a double load of work to be done. In addition to doing the usual garden maintenance, there's the job of tending to the vegetables after they're harvested. That's where his wife fits into this story.

"My husband generally tends to whatever needs to be done to the garden, but I see to the vegetables after they leave the garden," she said. "But when things get really hectic, we both will pitch in and do whatever needs to be done."

"Sure it's a lot of work," she said, "but this is our way of doing what the Scripture says about being doers of the Word and not just hearers."

There are quite a number of people, most of whom are elderly and living on a fixed income, who benefit from the generosity of this couple; and what makes their labor worthwhile is the thrill of being able to make a difference in the lives of those they help.

"It's exciting to be able to help these people, and we are so glad that we can make life a little easier for them," one

commented. "It's exciting that we've found the perfect way for us to minister."

"There are many gardeners and we don't really do anything more outstanding than what maybe thousands of others have been doing for years, but what makes our gardening special to us is that we know without a shadow of a doubt that this is what God wants us to be doing."

The opportunities for witnessing abound as the fresh vegetables are sometimes distributed to unchurched people.

"There are many chances to witness because we've discovered that there are quite a few we help who aren't Christians," the wife said. "The garden offers opportunities for sharing with the unchurched."

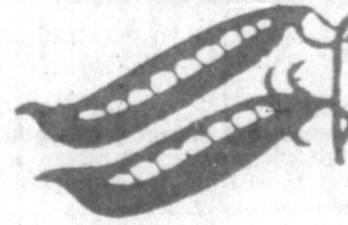
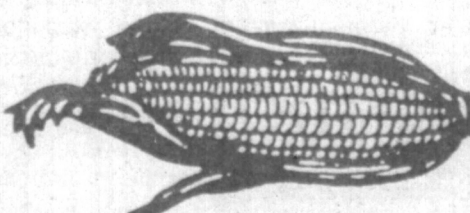
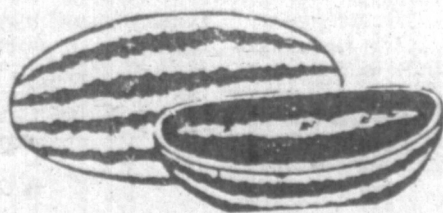
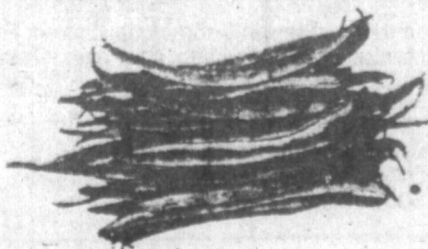
This couple is tending a garden, giving the harvests of their garden to Yazooans who could benefit from a little extra help, and witnessing to unchurched families who come to share in their generosity.

Something good is happening in Yazoo County — nothing really dramatic but something that is definitely significant. It's all about two people who are burdened with an urgency to help others.

Vernon Sikes is a high school teacher in Yazoo City.



Yazoo City gardeners — Photo by Judith Nail, Yazoo City Herald.



Editorials . . . by Don McGregor

Back to school appeal

Our children need clothes for the beginning of the new school term that is just a few days away. "Our children" are the residents of the Mississippi Baptist Children's Village.

The Children's Village is engaged in its annual Back to School appeal, one of three direct mail appeals during the year. The other two are at Easter and at Christmas. These appeals must go to individuals, for the Village makes direct appeal to churches only once each year. This is done during Christian Home Week, which is climaxed with Mother's Day.

So the Village is dependent on Mississippi Baptists through these four offerings for enough money to take care of "our children." They are ours. We have made arrangements for the Village to take care of them for us. The Cooperative Program, the primary mission channel for Mississippi Baptists, provides from 16 to 18 percent of the budgeted income for the Children's Village. To continue to take care of children as it has been doing, then, the Village needs a great deal more money. Thus this Back to School appeal is urgent.

The Village didn't ask for this support through the Baptist Record. It was volunteered when the need was made evident.

The fall months are particularly lean ones for the Village. It is a long time from Mother's Day until Christmas, so the Back to School ap-

peal comes at a critical time. A couple of years ago Executive Director Paul Nunnery had to appear before the convention in November and announce that the Village had run out of money and had to borrow to continue its ministry. We must not allow that situation to visit itself upon us again.

The goal for the Back to School appeal is \$150,000. This will provide for personal needs for these dependent children including special clothing needs, school supplies, allowances, school fees, college tuition, and so forth. While these needs are immediate, some donors may elect to schedule their support through monthly installments throughout the year.

The children who come to the Village for help are dependent, neglected, and often abused. They need our help. The Village can take care of a maximum of 242 at any one time on six campuses. These are in Jackson, in New Albany, in Independence, in Water Valley, in Brookhaven, and in Bond. Because the length of stay varies, the Village ministers to about 600 children each year. The average age is about 14.

While the children are residents at the Village, they attend church services. In Jackson they go to First, Calvary, and Parkway. In Clinton they go to Northside. The New Albany children go to First, New Albany. In Independence they go to Mt. Zion, and in Water Valley it's First Church. The

Brookhaven children go to Fair River, and the Bond children attend First Church, Wiggins.

The Baptist Children's Village present endowment fund is the lowest of any child care agency in the Southern Baptist Convention. Thus it is evident that generous support of the Mississippi Baptist Convention's \$40 million endowment campaign is a necessity. Even so, it will take several years for the endowment fund to begin providing significant contributions to the Children's Village operational budget.

Churches are supporting the Village. Last year there were contributions from 1,534 of the 2,000 churches in the convention. At this time, however, support is needed from individuals. Our children need clothes and other necessities for going back to school.

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board faced up to a tough choice this week as it listened to Lewis Nobles, president of Mississippi College, and Harry Vickery, chairman of the board of trustees, discuss the need of Mississippi College for more finances if it is to continue to operate Clarke College as a division of Mississippi College.

Word will move out over the state



Board faces Clarke issue

that members of the Convention Board were locked in intense debate concerning Clarke. And that is true. Their debate, however, was not one of sharp division. They were wrestling with the concept of dealing with Clarke College in such a way as to best serve Mississippi Baptists and maintain whatever contract provisions are in force concerning Clarke.

They had heard Nobles and Vickery

say that if some financial relief is not forthcoming, Mississippi College will not be able to continue to operate Clarke. At issue is the fact that when Clarke was merged with Mississippi College, Clarke's portion of the \$1 million or so administrative fund that had been divided equally into four parts for the four colleges began to be phased out on an eight-year program.

(Continued on page 4)

Guest opinion . . .

Come before winter

By Harry E. Vickery

Anxious moments and the desire to see something happen in a certain time frame prompts this material. That the Apostle Paul was anxious for a coat, for a visit, and for a deep-seated Christian bond is clearly understood by the believer.

The Mississippi Mission ends in the same season as Paul's anticipations.

The Mississippi Mission is the effort by the Mississippi Baptist Convention to put together a campaign that would make available to the three colleges and the Children's Village an endowment package of \$40 million.

Respectfully, may I remind Mississippi Baptists that in the last 24 months we have gone into business houses, into banking houses, and into the halls of industry asking for money in support of private Christian education and child care. We did not go however, until we first had asked for gifts from those on the staffs, from the trustees, and from the families of the dedicated Christian men and women who are the administrators of the four Baptist institutions that are owned

and operated by Mississippi Baptists. Had they not responded, we could not have gone forward. They far exceeded what the experts in the campaign had expected.

As Paul might have been expected to say, "What do we say now?" Somehow we must say that we have been humbled by the response. We told those outside the immediate Baptist family that our professors are woefully below pay scale, that in more than 150 years the combined endowment in the four institutions has not reached \$9 million, that our endowment income pays only four percent of the total operating costs of the institutions, that in 1940 the endowment income paid 24 percent, that future students of the colleges and the residents of the Children's Village need scholarship help in a world where escalating costs seriously impact Christian education, and that our Baptist Children's Village had the lowest endowment figure of any such institution in Southern Baptist life at the beginning of this campaign. With that information the business com-

munity joined the staff members of the colleges and the Children's Village to pledge more than \$23 million to date.

At the beginning of the campaign it was anticipated that Mississippi Baptists in 2,000 churches would give \$18 million. This would place us at our goal of \$40 million. No other state in the Southern Baptist Convention has attempted to support its colleges and child care work in such a bold way. Everyone on the outside is watching Mississippi Baptists. I've had numerous inquiries from those of other faiths and from those involved in public-supported universities in our state.

Where are we in our soon-to-close campaign? Our total count is more than \$27 million to date. Two years ago the Mississippi Baptist Convention adopted a goal of \$40 million, established a format for soliciting the funds, and sent the campaign committee out to work. It has been a humbling experience on the part of several hundred workers to see Christian education and child care prompt

such serious giving.

Permit me to bring several anxious concerns to our churches, and I do so respectfully. May I remind the church members that these are church-related schools and a church-related child care facility. Mississippi Baptists own them, control them, and depend on them in many ways from the pulpit to the mission field and even to the Christian hearth and business community. They do not belong to nor are they responsible to those who have given by far the biggest portion of \$23 million. They did not send the campaign committee out. Mississippi Baptists in the churches sent the committee out. The world served by the churches has causes stacked on top of causes. Most of the churches are working on budgets right now. Most of the churches should be looking at a five year Mississippi Mission pledge "right now." The majority of the churches that have responded thus far have pledged their goals or have exceeded them. This is God's campaign, and the final say will "come before winter" from God's people.

Why the anxiety? Mississippi Mission is a \$40 million campaign by Mississippi Baptists to raise an endowment package that will provide returns until Christ returns. We've asked others to respond, and they have responded and continue to respond. They responded after being told that the churches would be asked for \$18 million. Before a church puts this thing to rest and says, "No," the plea is that the church would help the committee to understand our responsibility to these Baptist-owned institutions. They have been in our ownership for many years. Should a church choose not to respond, the committee must ask that the church tell the committee what to say to those who have responded from outside of our Baptist ranks.

A whole host sits over against the way observing us. We have no choice but to "give before winter."

Harry E. Vickery of Vickery Chevrolet-Oldsmobile in Greenville is chairman of the Mississippi Mission Campaign Committee.

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Foreign Board appoints Lunceford to Taiwan

RICHMOND, Va. — W. Lloyd Lunceford was appointed a missionary by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board August 12 at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center.



Lunceford will live in Taiwan, where he will work with students and will be involved in a variety of outreach ministries. He will have two years of language school.

He is the state associate Baptist Student Union director for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in Jackson. He directs the student missions and international student ministry program for the state convention. He is a member of First Church, Jackson, and a former

member of First Church, Poplarville.

Born and reared in Clarksdale, Miss., Lunceford is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lunceford of that city. He considers Cherry Street Baptist Church there his home church.

He received the bachelor of music in education and master of education degrees from Delta State University, Cleveland, Miss., and the master of divinity degree from New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary. He is working toward the doctor of philosophy degree from the University of Mississippi in Oxford.

He has been assistant BSU director at Delta State University; BSU director at Pearl River Junior College, Poplarville; and was music and youth director at First Church, Boyle, and Duncan Church, Duncan.

Lunceford will go to Rockville, Va., in November for a seven-week orientation before leaving for the field.

Hannibal-LaGrange elects Mississippian president

HANNIBAL, Mo. (BP) — Paul Brown, executive vice president and academic dean of Hannibal-LaGrange College for 11 years, has been elected president of the Missouri Baptist school.



The college's board of trustees unanimously elected Brown to succeed Larry Lewis, who became president of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board early this summer. Brown had been acting president of the school in Hannibal since June 1.

Brown has been admissions counselor for Union University in Jackson, Tenn., and chairman of the division of languages and arts at Clarke College in Newton, Miss. He also has been pastor of churches in Mississippi and Tennessee.

He is a graduate of Mississippi College in Clinton, New Orleans Seminary, and the University of Mississippi in Oxford, where he earned a doctorate in higher education and student personnel.

Brown said his goals for his administration are to maintain the college's Christian distinctives and Southern Baptist identity; to offer "a wide range of academic programs that encourage our Christian graduates to go out and bear a strong witness for Christ;" to increase enrollment from between 750 and 800 to between 1,200 and 1,500; to provide adequate facilities for the expanded academic programs and student population; to increase the school's financial base; and to lead the school to "continue giving a strong witness for Jesus Christ in today's world."

His pastorates include Oakhaven in Memphis; Kilmichael, Union in Magnolia; and Anchor in Water Valley. Brown and his wife, Connie, have four grown children.

July Cooperative Program ranks 10th on all-time list

NASHVILLE (BP) — July contributions to the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program ranked 10th on the list of monthly receipts for the convention-wide missions budget, announced Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer of the denomination's Executive Committee.

The Cooperative Program finances Southern Baptist evangelistic, ministry and educational efforts worldwide. The national receipts come from 37 Baptist state conventions, which receive contributions from Southern Baptist congregations.

July receipts were \$10,778,300, Bennett said. They represent an increase of slightly more than \$1.5 million over

receipts for July of 1986, a gain of 16.24 percent.

Five of the top-10 Cooperative Program monthly totals have been reached in the 1986-87 fiscal year, which began last October. The monthly record is almost \$13.1 million, set in January of this year.

After 10 months of the 1986-87 fiscal year, the Cooperative Program has received \$108,893,265. That is a gain of almost \$5.3 million over the same period last year.

The Cooperative Program's strong showing in July pushed the year-to-date increase to 5.09 percent, compared to the current U.S. inflation rate of about four percent.

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MBCB OKs Gulfshore annex, considers Clarke's debt

By Tim Nicholas

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board approved for convention consideration in November an \$18.9 million 1988 budget and voted for a \$5.7 million package that would expand the size of Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, build a staff housing/mini-conference center at Gulfshore, and build a Baptist student center at the University of Mississippi.

The board, meeting in Jackson Monday, also voted to ask the Mississippi College board of trustees to "study the matter of Clarke College with a view as to the feasibility of its continued operation." The motion hammered out by board members, came in the form of a request, since the convention board has no power over other agency trustees.

The motion was passed at the conclusion of a four hour board meeting and following more than an hour of earnest discussion concerning immediate financial problems of Clarke College, and indirectly, the fate of Clarke.

The discussion concerned a special line item in the budget appropriating \$55,095 which is one-fifth of Clarke's current financial deficit. Budget committee chairman, Larry Otis of Tupelo, in a letter to the board prior

to the meeting, warned that the line item does not solve the financial problems of Clarke, but that it should solve immediate accreditation problems.

A committee from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, which accredits institutions of higher education, warned Mississippi College, which operates Clarke as a branch campus but with separate junior college accreditation, that a more secure financial picture needed to be shown for continued accreditation. The school has about a \$275,000 cumulative deficit.

So, earlier this summer, the MC trustees asked the Mississippi Baptist Education Commission for money to repay the deficit and for a reestablishment of the old funding formula which provided administrative dollars for each of the four colleges. Under a new formula, only the three existing colleges get the administrative funds, which, ultimately, will redistribute about \$300,000 from Clarke to the other three schools. A sliding scale drops one eighth of that money each year until 1991 when no administrative monies will go to Clarke.

The Education Commission made the deficit funding request, which

would be \$55,095 for each of the next five years — would only account for the current deficit, not increasing deficits in the future, but refused to change the funding formula, citing that they are only three colleges, not four and that William Carey College has branch campuses but no extra funding for those.

The convention budget committee included the line item, but not the reestablishment of the funding formula, and in discussion prior to passage of the budget Monday, both the president and chairman of trustees of Mississippi College made pleas for the administrative funding to be returned to Clarke.

Lewis Nobles told the convention board that when MC was asked to take over administration of Clarke "there was not one word about decreased funding." He said that had the funding formula remained intact, Clarke would have about \$100,000 excess, rather than a deficit. He indicated that if MC didn't get both the \$55,095 and the restoration of the funding formula, MC would likely have to give Clarke back to the convention before closing it, reminding of his promise made at last year's convention.

(Continued on page 4)

Baptist professors pledge to defend academic freedom

By Diane Winston

DALLAS (BP) — Fearful of a conservative attack, moderates who teach at Southern Baptist seminaries have joined a secular organization pledged to defend academic freedom and job security.

More than two dozen professors at Southeastern Seminary have formed a chapter of the American Association of University Professors at their Wake Forest, N.C., campus. Individual professors at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky., also have joined the national organization, which seeks to promote higher education and protect the profession's standards, ideals, and welfare.

"There does come a time in the kinds of problems we're facing now when a person has to pay attention to individual rights and privileges," said Temp Sparkman, a Southern Baptist professor who was accused of teaching heresy last year.

Sparkman, who teaches at Midwestern Seminary in Kansas City, Mo., was acquitted of "un-Baptist" teaching by seminary trustees who

ordered him to revise his latest book. "We'd like to do our work unhindered," he said, "but we're learning that's not the case and won't be the case for a number of years."

Sparkman said there had been no move to start an American Association of University Professors chapter on his campus.

The appearance of the association chapters underlies the new realities of Southern Baptist life. This summer, conservatives in the 14.6-million-member denomination completed a nine-year struggle to control the convention's 20 agencies and institutions. And with their hold virtually secure, conservatives are setting about their primary goal — to clean up the seminaries, particularly Southern and Southeastern.

The schools' faculties and administrators say they are faithful to Baptist principles. But moderates see several ominous trends, including the convention's adoption of a report recommending that the trustees of its six seminaries "determine the

theological position of seminary administrators and faculty members."

The president of the Southeastern American Association of University Professors chapter, Richard Hester, declined to comment on the group's formation or purpose. But W. Randall Lolley, the seminary's president, said he did not consider the chapter, whose members include more than two-thirds of the faculty, to be adversarial.

"I'm sure there is some element of feeling it gives them a wider court of appeals in some of these matters that are controversial now," Lolley said. "They think it's important."

The association's members say the group cannot offer any guarantees if jobs are threatened. But in the past, it has helped professors with legal and financial assistance and has censured schools that unfairly dismiss professors.

"This will allow a group of professors some platform to communicate," said Kenneth Chafin, a

(Continued on page 12)

Chautauquas will feature Mississippi personalities

NASHVILLE — A total of 10 senior adult chautauquas will be held this fall at Ridgecrest (N.C.) and Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Centers. A newly added 11th conference will be held at Green Lake, Wis.

Twelve people from Mississippi will be program personalities.

In 1986, 10 chautauquas were held; but a continued rise in attendance brought about the added conference in Wisconsin, according to Bill Howse, senior adult leadership development consultant in the Sunday School Board's family ministry department, which sponsors the events.

The additional conference will be held Sept. 20-24 at Green Lake Conference Center. Chester Swor, well-known speaker and writer, Jackson, Miss., will be the keynote speaker.

Of the other 10 chautauquas, six will be held at Ridgecrest; and four will be held at Glorieta.

Conference dates and preachers at Ridgecrest are Sept. 28-Oct. 2, Ralph H. Langley, pastor, First Church, Huntsville, Ala.; Oct. 5-9, Bob Norman, pastor of Clearview Church, Franklin, Tenn.; Oct. 12-16, Ralph McIntyre, special assistant to the president of the Sunday School Board,

Nashville, Tenn.; Oct. 19-23, Calvin Metcalf, pastor of Central Church, Fountain City, Knoxville, Tenn.; Oct. 26-30, Lavonn D. Brown, pastor, First Church, Norman, Okla.; and Nov. 2-6, Grady C. Cothen, president-emeritus of the Sunday School Board, Pass Christian, Miss.

Conference dates and preachers at Glorieta are: Sept. 21-25, Morton Rose, Midwestern Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.; Sept. 28-Oct. 2, John Lee Taylor, pastor of West Jackson Church, Jackson, Tenn.; Oct. 5-9, Jess Moody, pastor of First Church, Van Nuys, Calif.; and Oct. 12-16, Darold H. Morgan, president of the SBC Annuity Board, Dallas, Texas.

Detailed program and registration information is available from the senior adult section, family ministry department, Sunday School Board, 127 Ninth Ave. N., Nashville, TN 37234.

Swor has been known for more than 40 years as a speaker for student and other youth groups. In the latter year he has also been in demand as a speaker for all ages.

Cothen, a Mississippi native, moved back to Mississippi following his retirement as president of the Sunday School Board.

Ten other Mississippians will be involved. Guy Henderson of Clinton, Mississippi Baptist evangelism director, will be Bible study leader at Ridgecrest Oct. 12-16. R. Raymond Lloyd, pastor of First Church, Starkville, will be morning watch leader at Glorieta Oct. 5-9. Ethel McKeithen of Jackson, retired Woman's Missionary Union consultant, will be morning watch leader at Ridgecrest Oct. 26-30 and Nov. 2-6. R. L. Sigrest, music evangelist from Yazoo City, will be the music leader at Glorieta Sept. 28-Oct. 2. Gary Anglin, minister of music at First Church, Pascagoula, will be the music leader at Ridgecrest Oct. 19-23. Jan Rogers, organist at Broadmoor Church, Jackson, will be organist at Green Lake. Dot Pray of Jackson, keyboard specialist for the Church Music Department, will be organist at Ridgecrest Oct. 12-16. Ed Suddeth of Greenville will be the organist at Ridgecrest Oct. 19-23. Beth Sigrest, music evangelist of Yazoo City, will be the pianist at Glorieta Sept. 28-Oct. 2. Irene Martin of Harpersville, Baptist Record staff member, will be the pianist at Ridgecrest Oct. 5-9.



Left to right: James Brock, Paul Nunnery, executive director, Children's Village, and Norma Jane Brock.

Anniversary gift to Brocks: Village endowment fund

James and Norma Jane Brock have been honored on their 50th wedding anniversary by their children and grandchildren with an unrestricted endowment gift to the Baptist Children's Village.

The gift also commemorates more than 50 years in the gospel ministry by the Brocks in Mississippi Baptist churches.

"The James Price/Norma Jane Brock Endowment Fund" was begun by Jane Brock Weatherly, her husband, E.H. Weatherly Jr., and children Laura and Jamey, all of Southern Pines, N.C.; together with J. Price Brock Jr., Mrs. Brock, and their children, Bryan and Rachel, all of Abilene, Tex.

The designation accompanying the gift provides that the corpus of the fund will never be expended, but that the interest income will be disbursed by the Mississippi Baptist Foundation to the Village to use in ministering to the emotional needs of boys and girls in its custody by assisting in providing social casework and psychological services.

The initial contribution establishing the fund, has been credited to the Mississippi Mission, the convention's unified endowment campaign designed to development endowment for the Children's Village, Blue Mountain College, William Carey College, and Mississippi College.

The Brocks live in retirement in

Jackson following 14 pastorates, the first of which was Lexie Church near Tylertown, where he was converted, baptized, licensed, and ordained. This pastorate began about three years before his marriage which took place Sept. 5, 1937 at First Church, Magnolia. Brock's longest tenure as pastor was at Pickens Church where he stayed 23 years.

Brock said he stopped counting the number of people he baptized when he got to 1,200, but estimates the number at more than 2,000. Among those baptized by Brock during his pastorate at East Fork Church are Jerry Clower and his wife Homerline, and Will Campbell, Baptist minister, writer and philosopher, as well as a young Jew, a former resident of Detroit, Mich., who has remained in contact with the Brocks.

The Brocks' relationship to the Village goes as far back as Mrs. Brock's childhood when she assisted with the clipping of soap coupons to be sent to the agency when she was a young girl. She also recalls her Woman's Missionary Union participation in her first quilting party for the Village, and her grandmother's custom of selling chickens to provide money for Village children.

Communication concerning this fund may be made by contacting either the Village at Box 11308, Jackson, MS 39213-9990 or the Foundation at Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

MBCB OKs annex for Gulfshore

(Continued from page 3)

Trustee chairman Harry Vickery told board members that if the money was not forthcoming, "come next June, it is the probable intent of the trustees to give it (Clarke) back to the convention board." Vickery said that there is no place to cut budget at Clarke and that another \$50,000 is being spent yearly by MC in administrative duties for which MC is not being repaid, such as for payroll work, maintenance, and groundskeeping. He said that already the staff at Clarke is being paid less than the public sector's high school teachers.

Budget chairman Larry Otis reminded board members of a contract it had approved in 1982 when MC took over Clarke which provides for any indebtedness incurred in the operation of Clarke to be paid from Clarke's assets, its endowment, or by the convention itself. This, indicated Otis obligates the convention board to cover the present indebtedness, but only speaks to one-fifth of the present indebtedness.

Lewis Nobles painted a worst-case scenario for Clarke showing that the cumulative indebtedness by 1991 — assuming that everything goes wrong — that no new students are attracted to the school and that inflation and costs continue rising — would be \$1,135,000.

The budget as approved for consideration by the November convention includes the \$55,095 item, but does not reformulate the administrative funding.

But convention board members did not want to leave Mississippi College in the lurch with the possibility of looking as if whatever happens to Clarke were a unilateral decision by

MC trustees. So, board members, prompted by a motion by Lannie Wilbourn, board member from Rankin County, began considering how to help MC. A substitute motion suggested by Gayle Alexander of Tupelo was passed and says in its entirety:

"That the Mississippi College board of trustees study the matter of Clarke College with a view as to the feasibility of its continued operation. If it is found not to be feasible to continue its operation, the Mississippi College board of trustees should make a recommendation as to the orderly closing and disposition of the same . . . that this report be brought by the 1988 convention meeting."

The 1988 budget, subject to approval by the Mississippi Baptist Convention in November, totals \$18,915,000, a 4.2 percent increase over that of 1987. This includes a half percent increase in money that goes outside the state to Cooperative Program causes. This half percent increase will make 37 percent of the total budget, or \$6,746,950 go to the Cooperative Program of the SBC.

The only other significant increase in budgeting is an additional \$428,670 over the 1987 amount of \$251,330 to go to the expanded church annuity plan. This helps churches directly with their retirement program for ministers.

The building package — also needing convention approval before beginning them — includes approximately \$4.1 for the expansion of Gulfshore which will add 160 beds (adult accommodations would increase by 90) and double the cafeteria serving and seating capacity. There are 344 beds at Gulfshore now.

Housing for the 60 or so summer staffers at Gulfshore would cost \$1.1 million if the convention approves the package. The housing center, which would be just outside the gates of Gulfshore, would be usable in the off season for small group conferences. Current housing conditions for staffers are said to be woefully inadequate. This summer 18 girls shared one bedroom. The cost of the project is approximate since bids have not yet been made.

And the third part of the package is the projected Baptist student center at the University of Mississippi in Oxford. The project, already with bids made, would be \$10,000 for basic construction costs only.

(Continued on page 9)

Board faces Clarke issue

(Continued from page 2)

Now the fund is divided three ways for the three remaining colleges. The fund to be divided is growing by more than \$30,000 per year as Clarke's portion of the fund decreases by that amount every year. Mississippi College wants Clarke's interests, now administered by Mississippi College, to be added back in as a full partner in the division.

Of course, to restore the division to its former four equal parts would hurt the other two schools, which have begun to use the extra portions that they have been getting.

The Convention Board did approve for presentation to the convention a new budget which includes a \$55,000 item for Clarke College. While it was

hoped that the item would remain in the budget for five years, it was pointed out that one convention cannot bind a succeeding one. And the \$55,000 does not replace the \$250,000 that Clarke would get as a full partner. It was one-fifth of a Clarke debt of \$275,000.

The Convention Board sentiment was that something had to be done. The debate was not over whether or not to do something but more over how to go about it. They finally passed a motion that probably should have been noted as a resolution that suggested that Mississippi College study the feasibility of continuing to operate Clarke College and suggested that a report be made by the time of

the Mississippi Baptist Convention in 1988.

Mississippi College has said that it will not close Clarke. It has said that the school will be turned back to the convention before it will be closed. Mississippi College, however, cannot be accurate in its feasibility study until it knows how much money it is going to get.

There is no question but that Mississippi College has tried valiantly to keep Clarke going. There is no question but that the members of the Convention Board want what is best for Mississippi Baptists.

It is too early to predict that will happen, but there is also no question but that a decision is imminent on the future of Clarke College.

Book Reviews

GOD'S WAY TO HEALTH, WEALTH, & WISDOM. Rogers, Adrian P., Nashville: Broadman, 1987.

I suppose it is a tradition for Broadman press to publish a book by the president of the Southern Baptist Convention each year. This book was published after Dr. Rogers had served one year as president of the convention.

The book contains a series of expository sermons dealing with selected passages in the book of Proverbs. Dr. Rogers offers some very timely advice to all people regarding some very practical areas of life. The content of the book would be good reading for all people, laity and clergy. The outlines would be good for any pastor as well as the illustrative material.

I thoroughly enjoyed the book. I recommend it heartily. — Reviewed by Greg Potts, Pastor, Providence Baptist Church, Meadville.

JUST ME AND MY PIANO; Irene Martin; cassette tape; Route 4, Box 422, Harpersville, Miss., 39074; \$7.95.

Here are 14 delightful piano presentations, all arranged by Irene Martin, and all presented in the inimitable style of this well-known musician. There is something for everyone, from "The Love of God" to "Just a Closer Walk with Thee." All are done in a different manner from what has been heard before, but all are interesting, catchy, and very well done. Her diverse musical background allows Irene to present "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" in a style reminiscent of the music of a black congregation. It is a very beautiful and haunting presentation with harmony that can come only from music done in such fashion.

"The Love of God" also is done in a manner that has not been heard before, but it grabs the attention of the listener and holds it through the song. "One Day at a Time" is a sentimental favorite that everyone should like. "My Tribute" is representative of some of the more traditional praise songs. The virtuosity of the artist is exhibited in this number particularly, but it is also evident in all of the selections.

The tape opens with "How Great Thou Art" and closes with "The King is Coming," both presented with the distinctive flair of the pianist. "In the Garden," "Ivory Palaces," "At Calvary," and "Moment by Moment" are gentle, quiet, introspective numbers.

The other numbers are "At the Cross," "Come Thou Fount," "It Is Well with my Soul," and "How Majestic/Great Is the Lord," arranged by the artist.

Off the Record

A summer tourist told after returning home about "visiting" with a group of native Vermonters who sat for an hour without speaking a word.

The tourist said he finally asked, "Is it against the law to talk around here?"

One of the natives, he said, replied: "No, but there's an understanding. No one's to speak unless he is sure he can improve the silence."

rangements distinctively Irene Martin. Her many fans who have heard her play at evangelism conferences, at senior adult conferences at Gulfshore, at Chautauquas at Ridgecrest and Glorieta, and at conferences all over the state will find this

tape to be an enchanting representation of her ability, her spirit, and her talent.

This is a tape that will be a favorite of everyone who purchases it. The price includes postage and handling. — DTM

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Richard Webb, Mike Albert, and Tony Finn work on the floor of a closet the First Church, Jackson, singles built for a California church this summer.

Photos by Bill Liles

"Sharing the gospel in California is like digging in flower bed"



Mississippi Baptists Rachel Smith, Denise Harris, and Jan Self fill a garbage bag while Suzanne Ulmer digs in the garden of Grace Community Church in San Francisco.

A group of single adults from First Church, Jackson, performed manual labor this summer for Grace Community Church in Pleasant Hill, a suburb of San Francisco.

The 29 Mississippians, led by Rusty Barksdale, minister to single adults, along with his wife Sue, led in revival services, did church visitation, church construction, and landscaping for the church during their July 11-19 trip. Tony Rosenthal is pastor.

Barksdale preached the Sunday-Wednesday revival, with others in the group leading the singing and giving testimonies. And the group did visitation in the community.

The men, and some of the women,

built closets for storage across from Sunday School rooms outside the church. The women planted flowerbeds, literally chopping through stone and an old parking lot to dig the holes. They also trimmed bushes and trees, mowed the lawn, and dodged wasps.

"Sharing the gospel in California is like digging in that flower bed," said First Church single, Candace Robinson, "You spend hours digging and picking through stone, plant the seed, and then wonder if it will grow."

Single Marlene Davis said that in the week of service there, 11 people came for baptism and there were another 15 additions to the church.

Brotherhood Commission sponsors laity studies at Korean Seminary

By Jim Burton

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP) — The Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission has entered into agreement with the Korea Baptist Theological Seminary in Taejon, South Korea, to sponsor a professor and curriculum for laity studies.

The three-year agreement begins in September. The school is the largest seminary outside the United States.

Working with Huh Kin, Korea Baptist Theological Seminary president, and Lee Myung-Hee, who will teach the courses, the commission has assisted the Korean seminary in designing a curriculum that introduces the doctrine of the priesthood of the believer.

Every student will be required to take three courses taught in the school of theology — The Theology of Lay

Ministry, Equipping the Laity for Ministry, and Missions Education for Laity.

"We have helped the school realize the importance of the doctrine of the laity becoming a part of Baptist churches and their role in it," said Larry Yoder, the commission's director of church relations.

Korea has built a reputation for huge churches, with some congregations in Seoul claiming more than 40,000 members. However, the majority of Baptist churches are small.

Seminary graduates outnumber the existing Baptist churches in Korea. Typically, a graduate will start a church and pastor it his whole life. "In many instances, churches start in conjunction with that young man's family and some of his relatives," said

Smith. "And in many instances, he becomes the owner of the property and it's his church in a sense. It stays a relatively small church because it is basically a one-man operation."

Huh noted that in order for Baptists to grow in Korea, a new emphasis must be given to the laity.

"Activating the laity in missions has a lot to do with expansion of Baptists in Korea," he said. "But since Baptists have been overshadowed by non-Baptists, the movement hasn't had a chance to grow. We haven't had the opportunity to develop the doctrine of the priesthood of the believer."

Historically, the Protestant movement in Korea has been dominated by Presbyterians who have a hierarchical church structure there, Huh said. That influence has been felt in Korean Baptist churches.

"Our relationship poses significance," said Huh. "The significant result is in bringing all the laity in Korea to a better understanding of laity and their involvement in missions."

In addition, the Brotherhood Commission is working with Southern Baptist missionary David Weng and Korean businessman Kim Sa-Chul to develop Brotherhood programs in local churches.

Jim Burton writes for the Brotherhood Commission.

Single adults program theme: 'Put a towel on your arm'

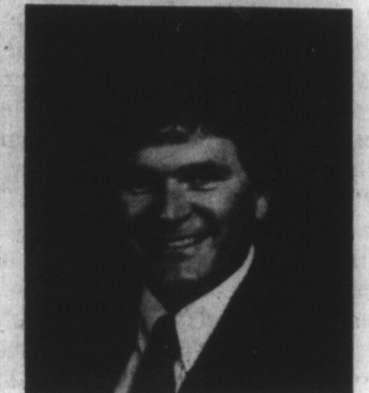
Highlighting spiritual renewal, fellowship and practical ministries, Northeastern Mississippi single adults will gather Sept. 11-12 at Calvary Church, Tupelo, with a program theme, "Put a Towel on your Arm."

Resource leadership for the event will be J. Clark and Margaret Hensley of Jackson, and Gordon and Dianne Swaim of Little Rock, formerly of Hattiesburg.

The program will begin with a steak dinner at 7 p.m. Friday and close at 3 p.m. Saturday. The dinner is included in the registration fee of \$10 which should be sent by Sept. 9 to William P. Smith, III, P.O. Box 133, Tupelo, MS 38802. The regional singles event is jointly sponsored by Lee County Baptist Association and the Single Adult Ministry of Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Area consultants assisting with the promotion are Peggy Woodhouse, Corinth; Sam Dowdle, Columbus; Don Trammel, Tupelo; and directors of missions and family ministry leaders of the Northeast area. For program information consult anyone of those named or call William P. Smith, phone 842-8164, or Clark Hensley senior adult consultant, MBCB at 968-3800.



Dianne Swaim



Gordon Swaim

Chaplains will hear Maddens at Garaywa next week

The Annual Conference of the Mississippi Baptist Chaplains' Association will hear Myron and Ann Madden and Pruitt Calvert at Camp Garaywa, Sept. 4-5. Registration begins at 4:30 on Friday and the program continues through noon Saturday.

Chaplains, both career and volunteer, full-time, part-time, and retired, and their spouses are invited to attend. Room and meals will be provided by the Home Mission Board and the Cooperative Missions Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

The theme of the conference is "Ministering Heartily."

Myron and Ann Madden have recently completed a European tour where they consulted with chaplains and their families. Myron is retired from the hospital chaplaincy and pastorate. Ann is working on her master of social work degree at Tulane. Myron is a writer of note and



Myron and Ann Madden

conducts a clinical pastoral education program with Chaplain Graham Hale at Forest General Hospital in Hattiesburg.

Pruitt Calvert, a native Mississippian, has lived in Louisville most of his life. He owns two furniture stores, in Louisville and Philadelphia. Calvert has portrayed the character of "Aunt Blabby" for approximately 12 years and has rendered this program as many as 42 times in a three month period throughout Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Texas, and Alabama. He is assisted by his wife Jean.

Fellowship groups will be convened Friday night for chaplains' wives by Vesta Renfro; for public safety chaplains by Jimmie Garrard; for hospital chaplains by Gordon Shamburger; for business and industrial chaplains by Harold Jordan; for correctional chaplains by Ray Bell; and for military chaplains by Lonnie Knight.

Registration for the conference and additional information may be received by calling the Cooperative Missions Department at 968-3800, Ext. 3962.

Membership in the Mississippi Baptist Chaplains Association is open to all active and retired chaplains.

Hamburg (Franklin) to celebrate 100th year

Hamburg Church, Franklin County, will celebrate its centennial with homecoming, August 30. Sunday School will begin at 10 a.m. and morning worship at 11 a.m. Music will be by Emma Farr and Rives Lowrey of Roxie Church, Roxie. Matt Buckles, former pastor and now pastor of Lowery Memorial Church, Blue

Human rights commission meets in Jordan

AMMAN, JORDAN — The Human Rights Commission of the Baptist World Alliance met here, July 7-10. The Commission heard reports from Baptist leaders about the situation in El Salvador, Nicaragua, the Philippines, South Africa, and Jordan.

Two challenging papers discussed the United Nation's "International Year of Shelter for the Homeless." George W. Hill, retired senior minister of Calvary Church in Washington, D.C., described how a Baptist church in downtown Washington responded to the homeless in that city. Wolfgang Lorenz, vice president of the German Baptist Union, described the problem of asylum-seekers in Germany and challenged the churches on the basis of the biblical message to make the concern of the asylum-seekers their own.

Commission members visited a Palestinian Refugee Camp on the outskirts of Amman.

(All reports and papers are available from the Baptist World Alliance, 6733 Curran Street, McLean, VA 22101-3804.)

Mountain, will bring the message. There will be a special centennial service at 1:30 p.m.

The church is in the first major building program since it was started 100 years ago, erecting new Sunday School rooms and a fellowship hall. J. C. Graves, Jr. is pastor.

Sarah Talley will lead session for children's choir coordinators

Sarah Talley will lead a session for preschool and children's choir coordinators during a clinic to take place Sept. 11-12 at Alta Woods Church, Jackson.

The clinic is for all preschool and children's choir leaders and will feature new techniques in teaching and leadership.

Mrs. Talley is preschool/children's music assistant in the MBCB Church Music Department.

BTN training conference is coming Sept. 21-24

BTN training conference, coming Sept. 21-24, will offer help in this new training tool to all churches and associations in Mississippi.

BTN covers training in all church program areas, such as Sunday School, Church Training, missions, deacons, media library, and family life. Pastors, other church staff, directors of missions, church volunteer directors in the church program organizations, church media-library personnel and other key leadership are all especially invited to participate.

The 1987 BTN training conferences entitled "How to Use and Administer BTN in Your Church and Association" will be held at the following locations:

Sept. 21 — Oakhurst Church, Clarksdale;

Sept. 22 — Hinds-Madison Baptist Association Office, Jackson

Sept. 24 — First Church, Columbia.

Times for the conference in each location will be 7-9 p.m.

ment. She is also coordinator of children's choirs and organist at Oak Forest Church, Jackson, where she directs the older children's choir.

The coordinators' session will cover such topics as organization, enlistment, relationships, planning, choir promotion, special programs, and outreach.

Other sessions will be for leaders of preschool choirs and older and younger choirs.

There is a \$5 fee per person but no pre-registration is required. The meeting begins at 6 p.m., Sept. 11, and concludes at 12:30 the next day.

All three conferences will include help in organizing for BTN, utilizing BTN messages in the church and association, processing and cataloging BTN messages, work of the BTN coordinator, maintaining BTN tapes and equipment, training users of BTN equipment, and scheduling and securing BTN messages.

Conference leader in all three locations will be Chip Turner, director of media services for the Louisiana Baptist Convention. He is author of the book entitled "The Church Video Answerbook."

Farrell Blankenship, state BTN Resource person, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, will coordinate the three conferences.

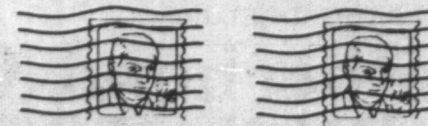
BTN (Baptist Telecommunications Network) is a training and information system brought via satellite from the Baptist Sunday School Board to churches and associations which subscribe to the service.



Pruitt Calvert



Letters to the editor



Letters to the editor must be limited to 300 words and the editor reserves the right to trim those that are longer. Editorial prerogatives must be reserved under all circumstances, and the opinions of the letter writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff of the Baptist Record. Only signed letters will be used, but the writer may request that his name be withheld.

Education is answer

Editor:

I read with interest Mr. McGregor's editorial "Clean up the roads." A program like "Adopt a highway" is a good one. However, it is not the answer to keeping our roads and highways free from litter.

I belong to a club that has had as one of its projects to pick up litter on a section of highway in north Mississippi. While it was hard for me to do this, since I have back problems, it was even harder to accept the cruelty of people passing in cars while we worked in the heat, briars, snakes, swamps, etc. One motorist threw his soft drink cup practically on us. The roadside we cleared was cluttered with litter by the next day. Most of us work and need our extra time for home chores and family. We shouldn't have to pick litter from roads, because people are ignorant and do not have pride in keeping our country

beautiful.

I feel that the solution to this problem is with educating our people about the seriousness of littering. Maybe we could have programs in school from kindergarten through high school.

Children have a way of getting parents involved. How sad it is that parents work so hard, pay taxes, and that tax money goes to picking up litter when it could be used for more worthwhile causes.

Some of the most highly educated and respected people in our state litter. I was shocked recently when a friend of mine, with whom I was riding, threw a drink cup out the car window.

A stiff fine, enforced nationwide, would also help.

Mrs. Helen Stone
Tremont

Thanks from accompanists

Editor:

Thanks very much for speaking up for the accompanists in your editorial this week. I have been an organist for over 20 years and have been greatly rewarded in many ways but have also felt very frustrated many times. Our church has a very supportive staff, but often I feel very unappreciated by other church members. I recently received a gift of money at the end of a week of revival services. I was very appreciative of this, not because I expected to be paid but because I felt I had gained the respect of the church body. This was the first time in several years that I had been recognized in any way.

The next Sunday our church had a

communion service and I was not offered communion even though I was playing during the time communion was being served. I felt that the respect I thought I had earned was lost. This is not the first time this has happened, and I am sure it will not be the last. I am also often left out during church business when a vote must be taken by secret ballot. Many times I have not been given a ballot or my ballot will not be picked up to be counted.

I do not expect special treatment, but I do expect to have the same rights and privileges that any church member is afforded.

Name withheld
by request

Seeking books

Editor:

I am trying to locate some books that are out of print and would appreciate your help. I have been collecting books by Dr. R. G. Lee for a few years. I have about 30 now and would like to have them all. I have also begun collecting books by Dr. M. E. Dodd, H. E. Dana, Norman B. Harrison, Herschel Hobbs, B. H. Carroll, C. E. Autry, Guy King, and T. Dewitt Talmadge.

As a young pastor, I was not able to purchase many of these books before they went out of print. I would enjoy reading them and having them in my own library.

Please send a complete list of the books and prices that you have and would be willing to sell to Bill Robertson, Route 1, Box 311, Trout, La. 71371 or phone 318-992-2844.

Bill Robertson

The brevity of time

Editor:

This earth is made up of physical things that are either permanent or temporary. As we look around us, most of the things we see are of a temporary time span. For instance, a chair, "a table, a TV set, a house, an automobile, etc. will last just so many years. Within 50 years practically all of these things mentioned will cease to exist!

What about human beings? Well, within a hundred years all persons living today probably will be gone. Even vegetarian-eating elephants only live 75 years while meat-eating lions and tigers live about 20 years. Most other animals live less than that.

Some large buildings and bridges may last 100, 500, or 1,000 years; but they are temporary and will pass away. The pyramids of Egypt are almost 5,000 years old, and they too will be gone someday. Such is the brevity of time!

What then is permanent? Very little physical matter on earth is permanent. Some mountains, islands, and seas can be called semi-permanent.

The SKY and the EARTH with its continents and oceans will always exist; they are the only permanent things on earth in this Kingdom of God.

Robert S. Leigh
Jackson

Thanks for editorial

Editor:

I want to thank you for your fine editorial expressing why you feel instrumentalists should be paid. You stated that you had tried to get this started in your former church but that it never got off the ground. Having served as a piano player in a small congregation for the past six years, I gladly did it without pay. On the other hand, it was just expected of me to do it for free. A kind word or a "thank-you" from a member of the congregation can be very encouraging to a musician. But many times it is all taken for granted and nothing nice is ever said, regardless of how much sweat and hard work had been involved. I often found it impossible even to get the piano repaired and tuned because of a lack of cooperation from the church. For a congregation which counts on hearing the piano Sunday after Sunday, it's hard to believe that they would neglect the upkeep of it.

I'm not the perfect musician, but I

love God and gospel music. I never studied music in a college, but I do share what I CAN do. That's one way a Christian can let his light shine for Jesus. About six years ago, I started my own volunteer nursing home music ministry, which includes seven area nursing homes: three in Natchez; one in Meadville, Miss.; one in Centerville, Miss.; and two in Ferriday, La. This features southern gospel instrumental music, and this ministry is the only one of its kind in this area. Many of the residents love to clap their hands, tap their feet, etc. to the rhythm of my music; and we always have a wonderful time in the Lord. I've recorded two albums of Southern Gospel piano instrumentals in Nashville, Tenn., and radio stations across the USA and many around the world are now sharing this music with their listeners.

Jacky Campbell
2 Front Street
Natchez, Miss, 39120

Accompanist's thanks

Editor:

I would like to commend you on the article, "Lo, the 'poor' accompanists." I am the church pianist and have been for the past four years. I came from another church just to play for the youth, and I got paid (the pay did not come from the church's budget but from members' contributions). After eight months, I decided to become a member of the church, and at that time my pay was dropped. I soon was drafted as evening service pianist as well as youth pianist. A year later, I was drafted as morning service pianist as well, and the latter included adult choir practice. I'm a college student and have to come home every weekend, which raises my expenses.

Before I began using my talent for the Lord, I had 10 years of lessons and many hours of practice. I spend five to six hours at church each Sunday practicing with the choirs and in services. Our youth group takes mission trips and choir tours, which requires extra practices and rehearsals. I enjoy every minute of assisting the leader and people, and I have grown spiritually and mentally, and I praise the Lord for the experience.

People, I think, just do not understand or realize that the instrumentalists really "work." But perhaps through your editorial, people's eyes will be opened to the work of the instrumentalists. Thanks!

Name withheld by request

Contrary to American dream

Editor:

I am in receipt of yet another solicitation to support prayer in public schools, legislative halls, and other public meetings. When will they ever get the message? This sentiment is contrary to the American dream of religion unfettered by governmental intervention in support of it or restricting it.

Public prayer will not make the difference — only personal, private devotion. The Bible does not call on all people to pray, only "my people" (2 Chron. 7:14). The theocratic model of the Old Testament has been replaced by the design of the New Testament church, which is a voluntary body consenting together.

Public prayers are usually too bland to matter or to specific and thus dangerous to live with. Christians make up the electorate in Mississippi. Therefore, any public prayer mandated would be specifically Christian. In California, where 70 percent have no faith at all, what kind of prayer would be mandated? Very innocuous, I am sure. But once the precedent is

set, who knows what kind of prayer would be sanctioned?

Christianity, historically has flourished when given freedom to practice and propagate its faith by the power of persuasion. It has flourished when supported by the institutions of the state. We can ill afford a church-dominated state or a state-dominated church. The former produced the Middle Ages (often called the Dark Ages). The latter is exemplified by the Church of England which is controlled by Parliament and supported by tax money. In neither situation did the Christian cause prosper.

Please alert your readers to think twice before contributing to People for Prayer or any other similar movement.

Electing the right candidate, enacting the right legislation, and adapting the right amendments are needed. But the critical factor is not political. We must solve our problems in Christian homes and Christian churches.

Eugene Stockstill
Jackson

Pastor's family trauma

Editor:

I am responding to a letter titled Pastor's family trauma.

As a young pastor in the ministry, I too have been faced with a similar situation of being forced to resign my first pastorate.

This was a terrible situation that was already heated when I arrived on the field, not knowing all of the story as I came onto the field. Some five months later, I found myself with no church one day and out on my own with no love and no assistance from Christians in our Baptist convention.

My local pastor friends did not help much, only to say good-luck, etc. I am grateful that another state convention, that which I pastored in, helped my wife and me financially.

We were lucky that my wife had a good job and that I found secular work right away.

To make a long story short, I am still working in a secular job but have not yet been placed in a church with any SBC agency help. I know what the pastor's wife in the letter was feeling as she wrote because my wife and I have been there. The writer is not alone.

When will the SBC stop playing around with politics and address the real church problems of staff members who are forced to resign by a few trouble makers?

I have located another pastor who was forced to leave a church with a teenager who did suffer like the writer's children.

Lonnie Stewart
Auburn, Ala.

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Sunday School leaders hear call to back up preaching



Frank, Gunn, preacher for two of the Sunday School Leadership Conferences at Gulfshore, talks to Caley Ray Nichols, pastor of Poplar Flat Church, Louisville. He is a former home missionary to Montana.

By Tim Nicholas

Frank Gunn, pastor of First Church, Biloxi, and Mississippi Baptist Convention president told participants at a session of a Sunday School Leadership Conference at Gulfshore about a dream he had after a friend died.

The friend and he had watched a lot of sporting events on television together, but Gunn, after the friend died of a heart attack, recalled he had never determined the friend's spiritual condition. He had never witnessed to the friend.

In the dream he found himself on the friend's hospital bed. "I was straddling his body, pulling his shoulders and thudding them back on the mattress, calling him by name and he wouldn't move," recalled Gunn. "And I awakened and reality struck me. It was too late." The illustration backed up Gunn's point in the message. "We have to back up what we preach."

Gunn was conference preacher for the second two Gulfshore Sunday School leader meetings. Eddie Cooper, pastor of First Church, Oxford, was preacher for the first two.

Keith Wilkinson, director of the Sunday School Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, which sponsors the training meetings, said approximately 800 people attended the four sessions this summer.

Training ranged from teaching leaders how to start new Sunday School units — part of the convention board's promotion of Bold New Growth which aims to help churches start new units of anything to help them grow — to separate conferences for youths and children. There were leadership conferences for every age group.

Gunn's messages dealt with the change that Christians can make in the lives of others when they themselves are changed. God "has given us the Good News and we are to share it. It goes beyond sitting in that class on Sunday morning. It means reaching out and touching lives consistently," he said.

Gunn said he heard about a man who sold watermelons on the side of highway 90 near Biloxi who had made a profession of faith the day before he left to go back home to Texas. That profession of faith was the fruit of a couple from First Church, Biloxi, who had befriended the watermelon sellers and witnessed to them.

"When you die," asked Gunn, which is more important, "your obituary or the influence on someone else's life?"

A woman phoned Gunn asking where she could put \$10,000. He told her she could put it in a scholarship fund for students planning for a career in foreign missions. She and others like her "invested in things of eternity."

Other examples of such an investment, according to Gunn, are to send cards, visit shut-ins, make a simple phone call. "Go this afternoon."



Gail DeBerry, member of First Church, sings during a session of a Sunday School Leadership Conference at Gulfshore.

Selfishness tarnishes everything it touches.

It's nice to know that when you help someone up a hill you are a little nearer the top yourself.

Medical Center plans retreat for nursing students

A one-day retreat for student nurses is being sponsored by Mississippi Baptist Medical Center and the Mississippi Chapter of Baptist Nursing Fellowship and will be held at Rice Acres the Hinds-Madison camp in Hinds County on September 19. The program will feature a presentation from a student nurse who was a missionary to Nigeria this summer. There will also be time for sharing and singing. All nursing students are invited. The cost is two dollars per person. To register, send name, address, and two dollars to Kathy Bearden, BSU director, Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, 1225 North State Street, Jackson, MS 39202-2002. For more information call Miss Bearden at 968-5144.

Floods nearly wipes out Home of Grace

Flooding in Jackson County over the weekend of Aug. 13-14, has nearly wiped out the assets of the Home of Grace, a ministry to more than 90 men with alcohol and drug problems. The ministry, operated by Bill Barton, a Baptist minister, was evacuated from its Vancleave home with an early estimation of \$200,000 in damages.

Jackson County director of missions Roger Dorsett said additional damage was done to several of the members of First Church, Helena, but that church properties were not hurt.

The Home of Grace losses were due to about seven feet of water that got into the buildings. Lost was virtually all office equipment, bedding, kitchen equipment, books, chapel pews, the piano and organ, and mowers.

For details on how to help, contact Dorsett at 769-7101.

The Mississippi Mission Box Scores

Each church is considering a suggested minimum goal (Great Commitment) and a maximum goal (Greater Commitment). The target range gives each church an idea of what is required to achieve success for The Mississippi Mission. Listed below are the churches making commitments in the midst of summer vacation.

Church	City	Pledge Amount
First Baptist Church	Clinton	225,000
Morrison Heights Baptist Church	Clinton	75,000
First Baptist Church	Winona	25,042
First Baptist Church	Lucedale	25,000
First Baptist Church	Mathiston	18,000
Calvary Baptist Church	Silver Creek	12,500
Lakeshore Baptist Church	Jackson	11,000
Northside Baptist Church	Clinton	10,500
First Baptist Church	Collinsville	9,000
Southside Baptist Church	Yazoo City	9,000
Silver Creek Baptist Church	McComb	7,500
Liberty Baptist Church	Pontotoc	7,000
Silver Springs Baptist Church	Osyka	6,000
Center Baptist Church	Blue Springs	6,000
First Baptist Church	Leland	6,000
Benoit Baptist Church	Benoit	5,000
Harperville Baptist Church	Harperville	5,000
Providence Baptist Church	Grenada	4,000
First Baptist Church	Guntown	3,000
Bradford's Baptist Chapel	Gore Springs	1,000
Hillsboro Baptist Church	Hillsboro	1,000



Keith Wilkinson, director of the MBCB Sunday School Department, leads a session on how to start new units of work in Mississippi, a part of the Bold New Growth promotion campaign.



Barbara Wilkinson of Jackson, wife of Keith Wilkinson, leads a children's leadership lab at Gulfshore.

Faces And Places

by anne washburn mcwilliams

Miss Teen USA

To young people of Mississippi who might be Baptist Record readers, Kristi Lynn Addis, Miss Teen USA 1987, would say, "So many opportunities are before you today, you can become anything you want to become. Place Christ first in your life. If you don't, then all the honors you can achieve will not be meaningful."

To visit Kristi, I turned left at Mama Ruby's Cafe in Holcomb and drove about a mile to a split level brick house on top of a hill. Her cat, Skye, lay stretched asleep in a chair in the carport. "Siamese?" I asked.

"No, Barnyard."

Kristi's mother, Mrs. Carl Deloach, answered the doorbell. W. D. and I walked through a room with big windows on one side, a ping pong table in the center, and floor to ceiling shelves at each end filled with 500 trophies that Kristi won in baton twirling competition. She has been national twirling champion five times and state twirling and state strutting champion seven times. At 11 she was Miss Majorette of America. (Seven times she has been Miss Majorette of Mississippi.)

In the den we sat on one of two dark blue velvet sofas. I was examining one of the brass ducks on the coffee table when Kristi entered the room and extended her hand in a warm greeting. She sat down, graceful, poised, quietly awaiting my questions. Her hair — I'm not sure if I should say it's blond or light brown — formed a sort of halo for her expressive brown eyes and ready smile. Her pink cotton dress was trimmed with white ruffles at the neck and sleeves, and a froth of white eyelet ruffle on an underskirt ended just above her soft white boots.

"I love to dress up," she said, "but I'd really rather wear blue jeans than anything else."

Age 16, she will be an 11th grader at Grenada's Kirk Academy this year. But a lot of her time during her reign will be spent traveling so that she will be studying on the road a lot, she said. Paramount Pictures, owner of the Miss Teen USA Pageant, will provide travel companions to be with her at all times. She'll be doing Maybelline commercials in Chile and Guatemala, and had engagements lined up already for Mexico, Ohio, New York, and Atlanta. She is to have a spot on CBS' new Gidget show this fall.

Kristi was born in Tucker, Georgia, but has lived most of her life at Holcomb. As I was taking her picture, her tiny blonde four-year-old sister, Lindsey, came in, so I took their pictures together.

"I was saved when I was six," Kristi said, "and was baptized by Brother Durell Edwards at Holcomb Baptist Church." The current pastor, Dale Gravatt, had told me that she often sings solos at church. Her favorites are "One Day At a Time" and "Consider the Lilies."

Her pastor said, "She definitely works on letting people know she loves the Lord... She's a sweet girl and we're mighty proud of her. Since she won, she has kept coming to all the

church services. She has not let the glory that has come her way change her attitude toward her family, friends, or church."

Last year when she and her mother were watching the Miss Teen USA pageant, her mother asked if she would like to enter that. She said she might, but she would need to pray about it first. I asked if anything in particular happened that made her feel God approved of her being in the pageant.

Immediately she answered, "Yes. I prayed, 'God, if you want me to go to the national pageant, then let me win the state pageant. If you don't want me to go, then don't let me win the state.'"

Then before the national, she was under a lot of worry and stress and was having to take medicine for her stomach.

She said, "I decided not to take any more medicine." (It made her drowsy and not at her best.) "I prayed, 'Lord, I put it in your hands. I won't worry any more. Just let me fulfill your purpose at the pageant. If it's to witness to someone or to help someone here, if it's something you want me to learn here — or if you want me to win — whatever it is, I leave it up to you.'"

When judges asked what was her favorite saying, she quoted Philipians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Since she enjoys writing, especially essays, poetry, and short stories, she prepared her own small devotional book and compiled the scriptures to go in it, to take with her to the national pageant. Also she placed Bible verse stickers inside her shoes and on her makeup case, as a reminder to herself of these truths.

During national competition, she said some of the other girls came to her, wanting to talk about their problems, and she had opportunities for witnessing to them.

Though she didn't bring up the subject, I read in the Clarion-Ledger that someone ripped one of her costumes and threw it into the shower shortly before she was to appear in it on television. It had to be hastily pinned together for her, but she held her

temper. With little sleep and under a lot of pressure, she showed her true colors, and performed well. I found that admirable.

Those who have most influenced her life, she said, are her maternal grandparents, Loraine and Raymond Carpenter, who are also member of the Holcomb Baptist Church.

Her mother, Geraldine, listed the gifts Kristi received with her trophy and crown. The Mazda RX7 sports car she'll get when a new model is ready. Besides that, her prizes are a mink coat, diamond necklace and bracelet, Kawasaki jet ski, home tanning bed, Windsong Rattan daybed and matching end tables; 100 movie video cassettes, all the clothing she needs all year, and \$66,000 in cash. "The money, I expect, she will save for her college education," her mother said.

"What is your most prized possession?" I asked.

"Things my great-grandmother left me. An old quilt, old pictures, the old clock on the mantel.

"My greatgrandmother played the piano. I was so fascinated by her when she played hymns by ear that I began to do the same. But later I took piano lessons. I like all kinds of music." (She rated Superior at National Piano Guild five years.)

As if all this were not enough, she made all-conference and all-state in basketball. The Kirk Academy Basketball Team won the AAA State Tournament, and Kristi received the best offensive award at school. Also she won the 1600-meter run in the North Mississippi Conference Track meet. She is a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, a member of the Kirk Academy modeling squad, feature twirler for the high school band, an Honor Roll A student, and a Kirk Scholar. One thing I learned she can't do — she can't cook.

With all her talent and charm and brains, she has an endearing sweetness in her personality. And I find it uplifting to know that she wants to place Christ first in her life.

Her favorite Bible character is Queen Esther, because she likes the way she used her position and power for God.

Graham to visit China in September

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. (EP) — Billy Graham has officially announced that he will visit China with his wife, Ruth, and son Franklin, immediately following a major crusade at Olympic Stadium in Helsinki, Finland, August 25-30.

August 25-30.

The visit will be "low key," said Graham, who will be holding no crusades, but has been invited to speak in several cities and at various universities during the two-week trip.

MBCB OKs annex for Gulfshore

(Continued from page 4)

The board approved utilization of monies from the fund balance and the borrowing of up to \$2.5 million to underwrite the three building projects.

Board president Paul Stevens ap-

pointed the committee on board organization which will place members on committees after election in November. Gayle Alexander will chair it. Others on the committee are Donald O'Quinn, James Spencer, Mary Cole, and James Ruffin.



Display cabinets behind Kristi Lynn Addis, Miss Teen USA, show off some of the 500 trophies she won in baton twirling competition.

Journeymen applications have Sept. 15 deadline

RICHMOND, Va. — College graduates who would like to work as journeymen with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board must have their applications post-marked by Sept. 15.

The journeyman program is for college graduates with four-year degrees. They must be age 26 or under and interested in using their skills on overseas mission fields for two years.

Applicants must be active Southern Baptists, U.S. citizens, in good physical and emotional health, and qualified for specific mission tasks. They may be single or married but not divorced. Couples must be childless and married for at least a year by Sept. 15, and both must meet qualifications.

Positions are available in weekday ministries, youth work, student work, music, health care, media, agriculture, business, secretarial work, and elementary and secondary teaching in missionary schools and local schools.

All expenses are paid for journeyman training overseas service and transportation to and from the place of service. Journeymen receive a monthly stipend. Severance pay is provided when the two-year term is completed.

Qualified applicants will be invited to attend a weekend information conference Oct. 23-24 in Richmond.

Applicants selected will begin training in January at the Missionary Learning Center in Rockville, Va., and go to the field in February or March.

The board commissioned 50 journeymen in February to work in 26 countries and 64 journeymen in July to work in 29 countries.

Those interested in applying for the 1987-89 program should contact the Foreign Mission Board immediately. Call Pamela Smith or Judy Brummett in the board's Personnel Selection Department at (804) 353-0151 or write to the department at Box 6767, Richmond, VA 23230.



Craig Shaw (second from right), Bluff Springs Church, Choctaw Association, and Mississippi Bible drill winner, practiced for the drill demonstration during the Church Training Leadership Conference at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center in July. Also pictured are: Dee Dee Tucker, First Baptist Church, Tucker, Ga.; Ann Tallent, Lane Avenue Baptist Church, Columbia, Ohio; and Kristy Seale, Southside Baptist Church, Greenville, Ala. (BSSB photo by Terri Lackey)

Mississippi winner speaks at Ridgecrest conference

RIDGECREST, N.C. — Christians around the world daily ask God to reveal his will to them, said Stephanie Hamilton, state youth speakers' contest winner from Mississippi.

"Before finding God's will, we need to understand what the will of God is and why it is important," said the member of Oak Forest Church, Jackson, during worship services at the Church Training Leadership Conference here. The speakers' contests are sponsored jointly by the Sunday School Board's church training department and individual state

conventions.

"The Bible teaches us that God has a predetermined plan for every life. It is inevitable, unconditional, and fixed," she said.

Hamilton suggests Christians consult the Bible, seek guidance from the Holy Spirit, take into account surrounding circumstances, seek counsel of more mature Christians, and pray to find God's will for their lives.

She said when Christians feel an inner peace, pleasure, and satisfaction, they are probably "fulfilling" his desires.

Durwood and Ann Broughton, missionaries to the Ivory Coast, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 202 Northbrook Dr., Wilmington, N.C. 28405). He is a native of Rock Mount, N.C. The former Ann Green of Mississippi, she was born in Biloxi and considers Vancleave her hometown.

Tom and Hazel Barron, missionaries to Indonesia, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 2518 Park Dr., Nashville, Tenn. 37214). He was born in Forest, La., and grew up in Richton, Miss. She is the former Hazel Clark of Richton.

John and Jerry Hilbun, missionary associates to the Windward Islands, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Barbados Baptist College). They consider Laurel, Miss., their hometown. She is the former Jerry Warren.

Major and June McDaniel, missionaries to Korea, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: P. O. Box 467, Clinton, Miss. 39056). They are natives of Mississippi. He was born in Goodman and also lived in Clinton. The former June Vineyard, she was born in Bolivar County and grew up in Skene.

Harold and Joyce Watson, missionaries to the Philippines, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 721 E. Northside Dr., Jackson, Miss. 39206).

Missionary News



The Northcutt

Irvin and Mildred Northcutt, missionaries, have returned to their field of service in Colombia, South America. Their mailing address is Apartado Aereo 6613, Cali, Colombia. They served the Oakvale Baptist Church in Oakvale, Mississippi, 1954-57.

Jonathan and La Homa Singleton, missionaries to Windward Islands, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla. 74801). He is a native of Belzoni, Miss. The former La Homa Martin, she was born near California, Mo., and lived in Stover and Eldon, Mo., and Fargo and Osage, Okla.

John and Jean Jacobs, missionaries to Trinidad, have arrived in the States for furlough followed by retirement (address: 520 Magazine St., Tupelo, Miss. 38801). He is a native of Canton, Ohio, and she is the former Jean Holley of Booneville, Miss. They began serving with the Foreign Mission Board in 1969.

Jon and Emily Lorch, missionary associates to The Gambia, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: Rt. 1, Box 18, Dow, Ill. 62022). A native of Illinois, he was born in Alton. The former Emily Ishee of Mississippi, she was born in Hattiesburg and considers Columbia her hometown.

Emogene Harris, missionary to Nigeria, has arrived in the States for furlough (address: 290 Cato Rd., Brandon, Miss. 39042). A native of Johns, Miss., she was appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1960.

James and Gwen Young, missionaries to Bangladesh, report a change of address (P. O. Box 99, Ramna, Dhaka 2, Bangladesh). They are natives of Mississippi. He is from Thomastown, and she is the former Gwen Jenkins of Kosciusko.



SATELLITE NETWORK, INC.

Effective July 12, 1987

CT	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5	Joy Music Gloria	Country Crossroads	Country Crossroads	Great Churches of America (I)	In Concert	Great Churches of America (II)	Moody Science Sunday School Lesson
6	The Life Gospel Church of America (I)	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Davey and Goliath Cartoon
7	Changed Lives	Prime Time Sunshine Factory	Profiles Sunshine Factory	Word of Life Sunshine Factory	Praise Song Sunshine Factory	Preclaim the Word Sunshine Factory	Sunshine Factory Cartoon of the Yoke
8	ACTS Methodist Hour	Skippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lamie	Skippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lamie	Skippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lamie	Skippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lamie	Skippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lamie	Lone Ranger Cartoon Adventures of the Lone Ranger
9	Cope Alive	One In The Spirit Country Crossroads	Catch the Spirit Country Crossroads	This Is Life Great Churches of America (I)	Joy of In Concert	Christian Lifestyle Magazine Great Churches of America (II)	Bill Cosby Show Westbrook Hospital
10	Inlight Catch the Spirit	What's Happening Life Today	What's Happening Life Today	What's Happening Life Today	What's Happening Life Today	What's Happening Life Today	Our World David Wade Show
11	Great Churches of America (II)	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Plant Groom Family Foundations
12	The Baptist Hour	Prime Time Eggscore Theatre	Profiles Eggscore Theatre	Word of Life Eggscore Theatre	Praise Song Eggscore Theatre	Preclaim the Word Eggscore Theatre	Jimmy Houston Outdoors Magazine
1	Sunday Selection	"	"	"	"	"	Moody Science Sunday School Lesson
2	Preclaim the Word	"	"	"	"	"	Davey and Goliath Cartoon
3	Love Worth Finding	Psychiatry and You Sunshine Factory	Psychiatry and You Sunshine Factory	Psychiatry and You Sunshine Factory	Psychiatry and You Sunshine Factory	Psychiatry and You Sunshine Factory	Sunshine Factory Cartoon of the Yoke
4	Joy of Music One In The Spirit	Skippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lamie	Skippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lamie	Skippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lamie	Skippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lamie	Skippy, the Bush Kangaroo Lamie	Lone Ranger Cartoon Adventures of the Lone Ranger
5	Catch the Spirit This Is Life	Country Crossroads	Great Churches of America (I)	In Concert	Great Churches of America (II)	Country Crossroads	Bill Cosby Show Westbrook Hospital
6	Inlight ACTS Methodist Hour	What's Happening Life Today	What's Happening Life Today	What's Happening Life Today	What's Happening Life Today	What's Happening Life Today	Our World David Wade Show
7	Gloria	Profiles	Word of Life	Praise Song	Preclaim the Word	Prime Time	Plant Groom Family Foundations
8	Christian Lifestyle Magazine The Castle Hills Light	Joy Music Gloria	Catch the Spirit Joy of Life	Inlight Christian Lifestyle Magazine	Invitation to Life	Scripture for Living	Jimmy Houston Outdoors Magazine
9	The Baptist Hour Worship	COPE	COPE	COPE	COPE	COPE	Moody Science Sunday School Lesson
10	Joy Music Gloria	Eggscore Theatre	Eggscore Theatre	Eggscore Theatre	Eggscore Theatre	Eggscore Theatre	Davey and Goliath Cartoon
11	This Is Life Sunday Selection	Country Crossroads	Great Churches of America (I)	In Concert	Great Churches of America (II)	Country Crossroads	Sunshine Factory Cartoon of the Yoke
12	"	What's Happening	What's Happening	What's Happening	What's Happening	What's Happening	Lone Ranger Cartoon Adventures of the Lone Ranger
1	Preclaim the Word Inlight	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Bill Cosby Show Westbrook Hospital
2	ACTS Methodist Hour	Profiles	Word of Life COPE	Praise Song COPE	Preclaim the Word COPE	Prime Time COPE	Our World David Wade Show
3	Gloria	"	"	"	"	"	Plant Groom Family Foundations
4	Sunday Selection	Eggscore Theatre	Eggscore Theatre	Eggscore Theatre	Eggscore Theatre	Eggscore Theatre	Jimmy Houston Outdoors Magazine

AVAILABLE IN THESE AREAS

Brandon/Pearl	Rankin County Cable	Ch 35
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Jackson	Capitol Cable	Ch 14
Meridian	Comcast Cable	Ch 11
Hattiesburg	U.A. Cable	Ch 6
Laurel	Laurel Community Cable	Ch 20

For information contact:



Farrell Blankenship
Miss. Bapt. Conv. Bd.
P O Box 530
Jackson, MS 39205

Names in the News

Cynthia McGee has accepted a position as director of childhood education at First Church, Corpus Christi, Tex. She is a native of Mississippi, and was graduated from Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary. Also she has a master's degree in elementary education from University of Southern Mississippi. During the past four years she has served Allandale Church, Austin, Texas, as director of children's ministries. For the years, 1977-1980, she was a missionary in Costa Rica and Chile. The Corpus Christi church will hold a reception in her honor on Sept. 13.

Willie Neal was recently recognized by his Sunday School class, the senior adult men, with the presentation of a plaque during the morning worship service. Neal, who taught for 41 years at New Hope Church, Meridian, retired this past June.

Dan Holland, pastor, his wife, Barbara, and Kim, were honored by Woodland Church, Woodland, at a two year appreciation supper. They were presented gifts from the church.



Michael Denton was recently licensed to the gospel ministry, by First Church, Verona. Pictured are David Hamilton, left, pastor, and Denton, right.

Ann Colbert, music evangelist, will be presented in a testimonial through music at Forest Church, Forest, Aug. 30, 7 p.m. A reception will follow the presentation.

Bailey Smith, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention held an evangelism rally in Hattiesburg, August 8, for the Lebanon and Lamar County Association. The rally was planned and hosted by South Twenty-Eighth Avenue Church, Hattiesburg. Smith also led the Sunday morning worship services before departing for Laurel to begin a week of revival crusade. Gibbie McMillan is pastor.

Alvin Lyons was licensed to the gospel ministry on July 8, by Mt. Zion Church, (Lincoln Association). Pictured (l to r) are Wayne Kimbrough, pastor, Alvin Lyons, Alana Lyons, daughter, and Angie Lyons, wife.

Louisville honors secretary on her 35th anniversary

By Anne McWilliams

First, Louisville, honored Carleen McGraw with a surprise "This Is Your Life" program on Sunday evening, August 9, in recognition of her 35th anniversary as its church secretary. Possibly she has had a longer tenure than any church secretary in the state, or for that matter, in the United States. The pastor, Don Cotten, initiated the program plans.

During a reception after the evening service, a money tree and a book of letters of appreciation were presented to Mrs. McGraw.

Several former church staffers who took part on program included Martha Rogers Tisdale (Mrs. Terrell) of Ellisville, former church organist and secretary; Paul Harrell, Jackson, state Brotherhood director, the first minister of education at the church after Carleen became secretary; Linda Havers (Mrs. Hollis), Lake, a former assistant secretary; and James Fairchild of Atlanta, the pastor who hired Carleen in 1951.

James Fairchild had worked out an acrostic of words (based on her name) describing her: C for character, caring, conscientious; A for ability, attitude, attractive, amiable; R for ready, reliable, remarkable; L for loveable, longsuffering (patient); E for excellent, efficient; E for enduring those five pastors and 35 years; and N for No. 1 — there's no one like Carleen.

Paul Harrell said that hers has been a seven-day routine, characterized by patience and love. He said that she is a walking encyclopedia of information of the church membership.

One of her friends, Grace Allen, mentioned that besides her love of God, her loyalty, and her sense of humor, she has the gift of silence — of not saying the things that should not be said.

Carleen grew up in Neshoba County. She attended Draughton's Business College in Tupelo, and worked for a law firm in Philadelphia and a lumber company in Louisville before beginning work with First Baptist Church of Louisville. In Louisville she met the late Abe McGraw, whom she married in 1941.

In 1951, Carleen was interviewed by James Fairchild, pastor at First, Louisville, while Marguerite Johnson, fellow secretary with her at the lumber company, nervously waited outside. (Marguerite was on program Aug. 9.)

Mary Emily Majure, who worked for a short time as director of activities soon after Carleen came on the job, told of her first impressions of the new church secretary.

"I thought she was the slowest human being I had ever seen. When I saw her crossing the street, I thought, 'That's the only person I've ever seen walk without moving a muscle. I hurried through my work because I thought sure I'd have to help Carleen finish hers. I didn't accomplish much. But at the end of the day she came out with a stack of let-

ters two feet high that she'd written that day. I learned that the fable of the tortoise and the hare is not a fable after all."

Besides being church secretary, Carleen has been active in all phases of the church life. She is a Sunday School teacher and a Church Training leader. She helped to start a lunch time Baptist Women's group and when she could not find a chairman for that group, she took the job herself. She has at various times used her vacation time to work in volunteer home missions projects. One former pastor, Jimmie Porter, pointed out in a taped message that she sometimes used her lunch breaks to visit the sick in the hospital.

Many church leaders, as well as current staff members, contributed to the program. The minister of music, John Burke, sang. Jean Jones, secretary who helped with a lot of the preparation for the program, told about the time she punched a computer button and wiped out a month of Carleen's programming, and how Carleen treated her with Christian fortitude. Juanita Hight, church librarian and Carleen's "double first cousin-in-law" said, "If your life were a book, I would be proud to have it on my shelf."

Among the guests were Carleen's brother, Jack Turner, and his wife,

Eunice, from Eupora; her daughter, Jenise Matthews (Mrs. Keith) of Jackson; her daughter, Cindy Bush of Fort Worth, and Cindy's husband, Russell Bush, professor at Southwestern Seminary; and grandchildren, Beth and Josh Bush, Fort Worth.

Amy Land, a member of the Church Training group which Carleen currently leads, said, "Carleen, for me, you have been an example, and one I seek when I need someone to pray for me. Thank you for letting us see Jesus in you."



First, Louisville, presents money tree, left, to church secretary, Carleen McGraw, center. Don Cotten, pastor, is at left and John Burke, minister of music, at right.



Several former staffers return to Carleen McGraw's 35th anniversary party at First, Louisville, left to right: Martha Rogers Tisdale (Mrs. Terrell), Ellisville, former church organist and secretary; Carleen McGraw, church secretary, since Oct. 1, 1951; Paul Harrell, former minister of education, now director, state Brotherhood Department; Linda Havers (Mrs. Hollis), Lake, former secretary; James Fairchild of Atlanta, former pastor at First, Louisville, who employed Mrs. McGraw.

Colonial Hills, Southaven, will host Stanton Conference of Evangelism

Colonial Hills Baptist Church of Southaven, will host the first Jack Stanton Conference of Practical Evangelism and Ministry, Oct. 1-3.

Conference personalities include Jack Stanton, first vice president of the SBC; Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Louis Drummond, professor of evangelism at Southern Seminary and dean of the Billy Graham School of Evangelism;

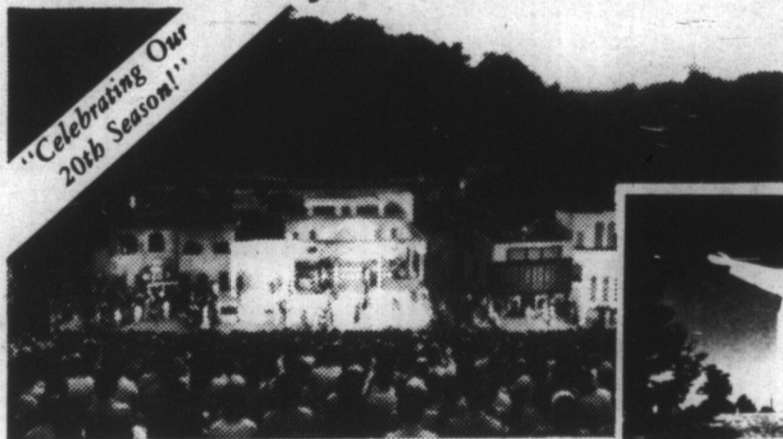
Bob Hamblin, director of evangelism for the Home Mission Board; B. Gray Allison, president of Mid-

America Seminary in Memphis; Ike Reighard, pastor of New Hope Baptist Church in Fayetteville, Ga, the second fastest growing church in the SBC;

James Travis, Bible professor at Blue Mountain College; Jack E. Stack, Meridian layman; Tommy Vinson, host pastor; and Evangelist John Woods — New Life Crusades Ministries.

The conference theme is "My Hearts Desire For America ... Addressing Our Witness To A Nation in Distress." For more information call toll free 1-800-558-9442.

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The Great Passion Play, Eureka Springs, AR 72632-0471



CHILDREN'S PAGE

GEOGRAFUN: (For Young Readers) Nations and Imaginations

By Ralph C. Peterson

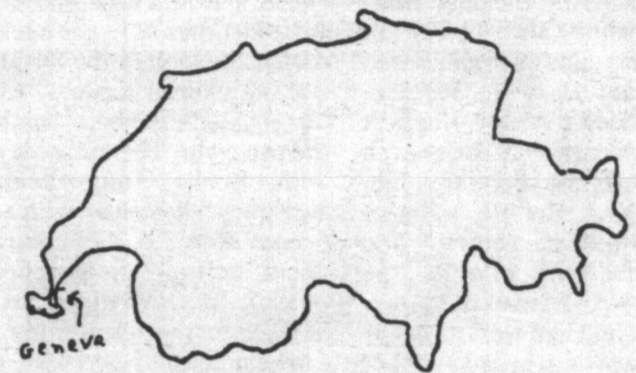
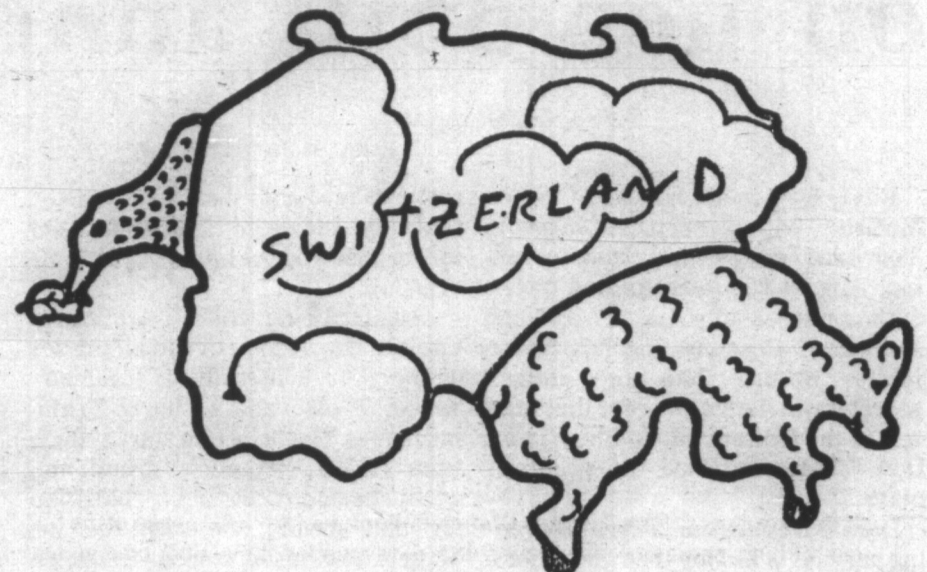


Good News for All the World

The long-awaited Messiah, Jesus, was coming into the world as a tiny baby! He would be God's love gift to the whole world. He would be a Savior, who would save men from their sins. He would offer forgiveness and salvation to every individual who would repent, and believe in him. This was indeed good news! (Matthew 1:21)

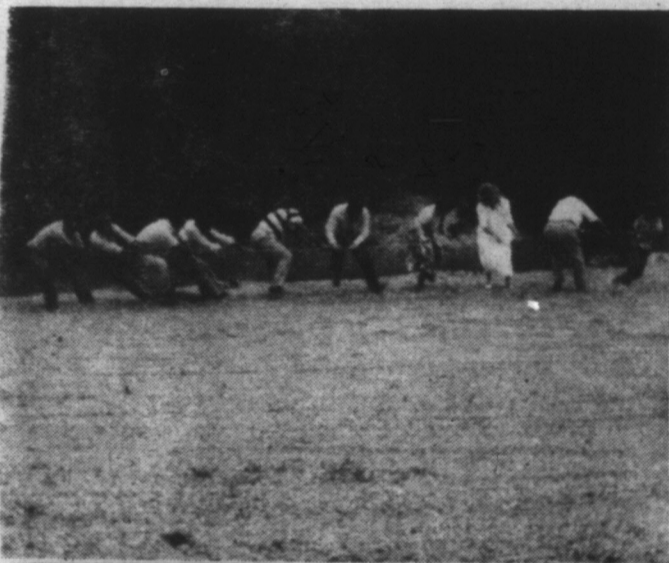
Unscramble the words to discover some languages in which the good news has been given.

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Have you ever looked for familiar shapes in clouds on a summer day? Looking for shapes in maps is fun, too. Imagine the map of Switzerland is a cloud. Can you see the dove's head and the lamb? Color them in.



Tug of War

Cason Children's Church children (top right) challenged the bus workers and the Children's Church workers to a "Tug-of-War!" Guess who won?

Pen Pal Club

Anyone, ages 6 through 12, who wishes to meet a Pen Pal through the Baptist Record may do that by sending name, address, age, and name of church. Names will be listed monthly on the Children's Page.

Ashlee Taylor
5025 Little John St.
Pascagoula, Miss. 39567
Age 7
First Baptist, Pascagoula

Baptist professors pledge . . .

(Continued from page 3)

professor at Southern Seminary. "It doesn't give us any political power."

But Chafin's boss, Roy L. Honeycutt, called AAUP membership "a needless action."

"In my judgment, belonging to AAUP will not do anything pro or con regarding their security," said Honeycutt, president of Southern Seminary. "In our system, due process is followed throughout."

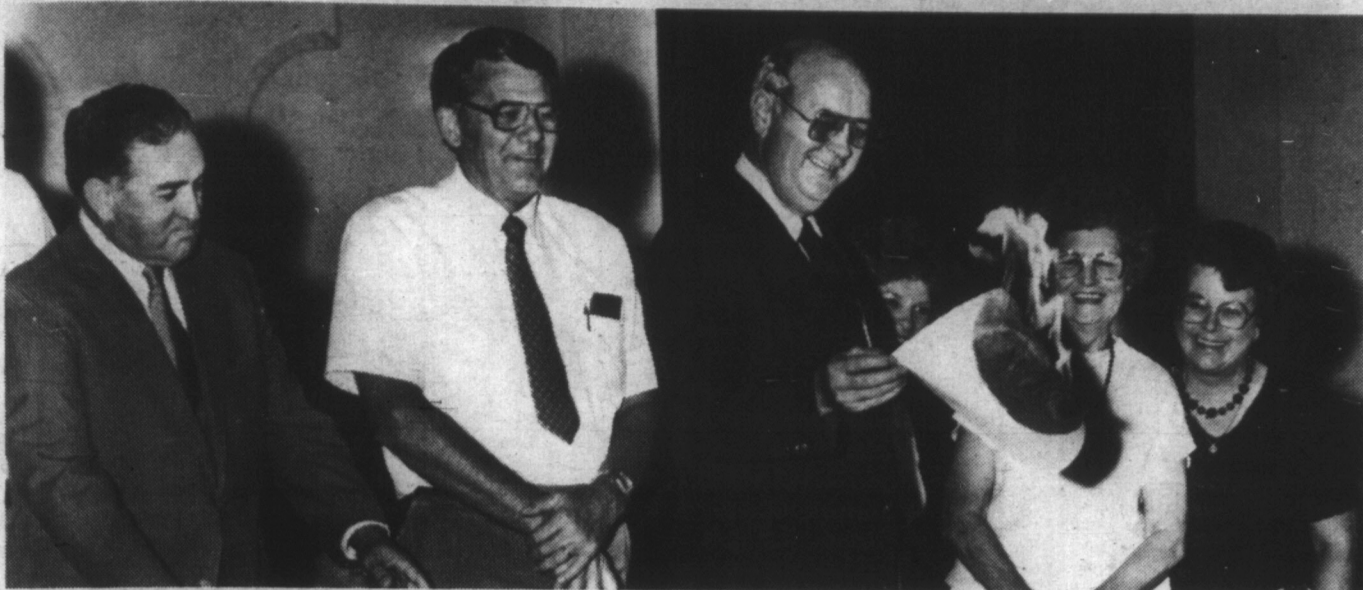
Russell Dilday, president of Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, said the issue raised by the association's membership was broader than whether schools followed due process.

"This is a tragic testimony of the mood of suspicion and distrust that pervades our denomination," Dilday said. "People are searching for assurance, protection, and guidance — and it seems to be getting worse, not better."

(Diane Winston is religion editor for the Dallas Times Herald.)



Just for the Record



On Sunday, Aug. 2, **West Heights Church of Pontotoc**, held a note-burning ceremony celebrating the retirement of indebtedness incurred in renovating a two-story educational building. The retirement of this \$100,000 note in less than 12 months completes the second phase of a three-phase building program. In 1986 the church purchased a piece of adjoining property needed for parking and building space. The third

phase of the building program, the erection of a 16,000 square foot educational building, will begin shortly.

Several members of the Building Committee witness the note-burning. Left to right are Jack Sappington, Wilton Chism, Jimmy Stegall, Dot Seale, Gara Edwards, and Jean Rodgers. James Spencer is pastor of West Heights.



GAs of Big Creek Church, Wayne County, recently met in the home of Mrs. Louise James for a summer overnight mission study. The group had a time of fun, Bible study, and a cook out. Pictured, are Seirra Beard, Renee Cochran, Rexanna Ferguson, Heather Dufrene, Marie Adams, Sabrina Williams, Rachel Cochran, Vanessa Adams, Deaine Reid, Carrie Hutto, Jaime Young, Melody Duncan, LaNae McIntosh, and Jamie Hutton. Also, attending were Virginia Scarbrough and Lori Mills.



Winner of slowpitch tournament

Fair River Church, Lincoln Association, boy's team placed first in the boys' state slowpitch tournament. Mike Howell is pastor.

Pictured, left to right, front row, are David Dunaway, Stan Winborne, Vince Carona, Lee Dunaway. Back row, Bobby Thornhill, coach, David Swalm, Troy Jordan, Todd Reeves, Jeff Butler, Joel Nations, Jay Nations, and Chad West.



West Ripley Church, Ripley, sent a mission group to Woods Field, Ohio. They were asked to lead a "Lay-Led" revival at First Baptist Church. The group gave testimonies, led group discussions, did visitation, led music, and rendered special music.

Those going were (l to r) — Eddie Moore, Amelia Taylor, Jamie King, Lee Ann King, Milton Wilbanks, Grace Wilbanks, Pauline Jackson, Marie Bullock, Gladys Wilbanks, Elton Wilbanks, Joyce Clemmer, Bill Baker, pastor, Becky Baker, and Jonathan Baker.

Fourteen Young people of New Hope Church, Columbus, were provided a trip to Eureka Springs, Ark., particularly to see the passion play. The trip was provided by the church in recognition for the efforts by the young people in carrying out a survey of the church community during the summer. Victor Bonner is pastor, and David Bonner is summer youth director. Those making the trip were Ronal Pittman, Ashley Elmore, Richie Chain, Faye Bonner, Victor Bonner, Michelle Bonner, Shannon Harper, Amy Fitch, David Bonner, Ken Stone, Randy Bonner, Brion Post, Cary Hoycox, and Kathy Plowman.

"Cardiac Rebounders," a support group organized by Mississippi Baptist Medical Center's Cardiac Rehabilitation Department, will meet Tuesday, September 8, at 7 p.m. on the fourth floor of the Imaging Center at 1405 North State Street. Anyone who has ever been a cardiac patient or is the spouse of cardiac patient is invited. To register call 968-3090.

Cash Church, Scott Association, will have dedication services for its newly renovated fellowship hall and Sunday School classes, and open house from 2 to 4 p.m., on August 30.

Jim Pender is pastor.

BSU director's mother dies

A member of Ashland Church, Mrs. Watkins was buried at Lakewood Park, Clinton. Other survivors include son, Paul Watkins, also of Starkville; daughter, Linda Watkins Read of Southaven; three brothers and three sisters.

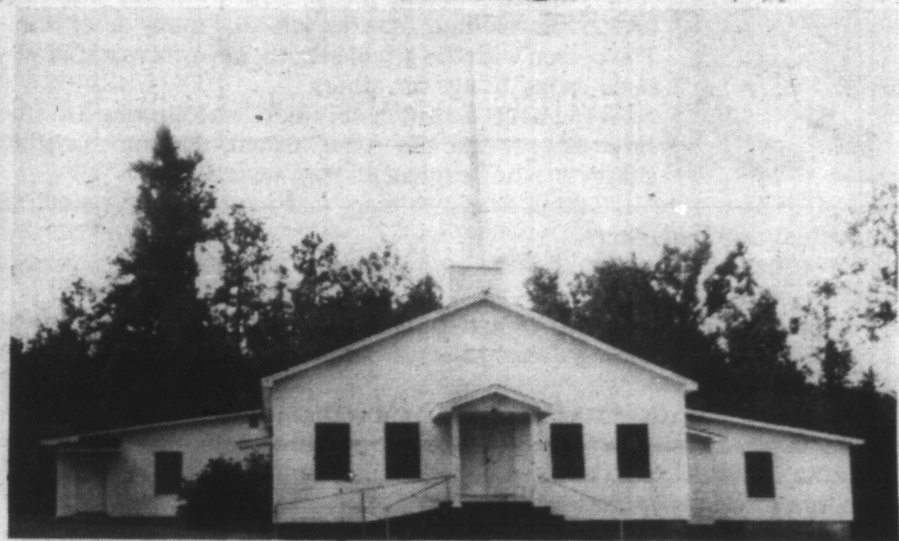
Memorials are to be sent to the MSU Baptist Student Union Special Missions Fund.

Mrs. Edna Triglith Watkins, 66, died in Starkville, Aug. 18. She was the mother of Ken Watkins, Baptist Student Union director at Mississippi State University.

Foresight is the inborn ability to utilize the present in making a past for future use. — The Sparta (Ill.) News-Plaineader

Big Creek Church (Wayne) held its Acteen recognition with the theme, "Color my World."

Seated, (l to r) are Heather Freeman, Stephanie Williams, Shonda Cooley. Standing, Bronwynn Cherry, Stacey Bonner, Shannon Armstrong, and Felicia Watson. Acteen leader is Nancy Armstrong.



Providence Church, Jayess, celebrates 140th year

Providence Church, Jayess, will celebrate its 140th anniversary, Aug. 30. Sunday School will begin at 9:45 a.m., the reading of the church history and morning message at 10:30. Dinner served on the grounds with the Sonshine Trio presenting a message in song following lunch. N. F. Greer, former pastor and presently serving with the Alabama Baptist Association will bring the morning message. Music will be directed by Micky and Gerry Sandifer.



The Youth Choir of Grandview Church, Pearl, will present the musical, "The Best of David Clydesdale," on Aug. 30 at Grandview Church. The choir recently presented this musical in churches in Collins and Carthage. Mrs. Lynn Weems is director and Wade Chappell is pastor.



Crossgates Church, Brandon, moved into a new auditorium facility, July 12. The auditorium will seat 1,200 plus 120 in the choir. On this first Sunday 1,000 people attended the morning worship service and participated in a dinner on the grounds, and 776 attended Sunday School. This was the highest Sunday School attendance in the history of the church. Davis Odom is pastor. Randy Tompkins is interim minister of education.

Devotional

Discovering our gift of service

By Wayne G. Berry

The gifts that God gives us are ministry and service oriented. Gifts are never for the honor of the possessor. They are like the Lord gives them — for service. We have been given the gift of service. The gift of service is a common gift for everyday living. It is concerned with all those things necessary to a person's daily life. The Greek word for service is *Diakonia*, from which we get our word *deacon*. It simply means serving people with whatever they need, food, drink, clothing, shelter, jobs and many other things. The person with the gift of service never runs out of ways to do loving things for others.



Berry

Do you have the gift of service? The following are some clues of service. To what extent do you see these characteristics evident in your own life?

1. Taking action to meet and minister to physical and spiritual needs in others.
2. Willing to serve and minister rather than get someone else to perform that service.
3. Making an effort to serve and minister without being asked.
4. Having a continuing desire to serve when one receives an ungrateful response.
5. Having a great concern for the comfort and well-being of others.

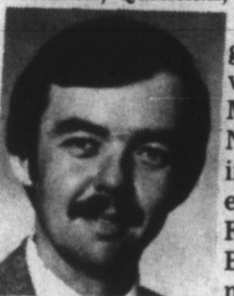
Have you discovered your gift of service and ministry? "Even as the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and give his life a ransom for many" (Matt. 20:28).

Wayne G. Berry is pastor, Calvary, Greenwood.

Staff Changes

Jay Slaughter will begin serving as the associate pastor of South Twenty-Eighth Avenue Church, Hattiesburg, effective September 1. A native of Ellisville, Slaughter is a graduate of William Carey College and plans to enter the satellite program of New Orleans Seminary in Jackson. He surrendered to the ministry March of this year and was licensed to the gospel ministry July 12 by his home church, South Twenty Eighth Avenue, Hattiesburg. The pastor is Gibbie McMillan.

Marcus Peagler has accepted the call as minister of education at First Church, Quitman, effective Aug. 1.



Peagler

Peagler is a graduate of University of Southern Mississippi and New Orleans Seminary. He served eight years at First Church, Butler, Ala., as minister of music and education, and the last three years as minister of music and education at South Side Church, Meridian.

He is married to the former Micki DeLoach of Hilliard, Fla. and they have two children, Melody, six, and Micah, four.

Arnold Davis has resigned the pastorate of Murphy Creek Church, Winston County, and has moved to the pastorate of Rosedale Church, Tuscaloosa, Ala. Davis was pastor at Murphy Creek for 12 years. He and his wife are now living at 1200 Canterbury Road, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35405.

Paul Posey is the new minister of education and activities at New Hope Church, Meridian. He went from 15th Ave. Church where he was involved in RAs and youth activities.

Posey and his wife, Sherri, have one son, Jonathan. Mike Everett is pastor.

First Church, Clinton has called Ross Holleyman as its full-time associate minister of activities, effective Aug. 1. Since November, 1986, he has served on a part-time basis with the church. Holleyman is a graduate of Mississippi College and Baylor University. He is married to the former Glenda Carpenter of Monticello. They have three children, Aaron (9), Kelly (7), and Daniel (2).

Paul Pearson has assumed the position of pastor of Gillsburg Church, Amite County, coming from Fayette Church in Jefferson County. Pearson is a native of Louisiana, a graduate of Louisiana College and New Orleans Seminary, and has completed the Southern Baptist Hospital Clinical Pastoral Education Intern Program. He is married to the former Joyce Stanley of Lake Providence, La.

Homecomings

Northside (Union County): Aug. 30; Marvin Cox, director of missions and former pastor, will preach in morning service; lunch will be served in recreation hall at noon; the Challengers will sing in the afternoon service; W. L. Oaks, pastor.

Pilgrim's Rest (Panola): Sept. 6, 11 a.m., homecoming; Byron Epps, associate pastor, First, Jackson, Tenn., guest speaker; dinner served in fellowship hall; historical church photographs and other documents requested; Carey Myers, pastor.

Calvary, Wayneboro: Sept. 13; 39th anniversary; observance of Founder's Day; Charles Holifield, speaker for the morning worship service (he was pastor of Calvary Church from 1956 to 1959. He is now pastor of Union Church, Liberty); Earnest Hill, minister of music and education at Calvary from 1969 to 1970, to lead the music; afternoon service, special music and testimonies; Doug Broome, pastor; Dottie Parker, chairman of Founders Day Committee.



Fredonia Acteens hold mission VBS in New Albany

For the third year, the Acteens and their leaders from Fredonia Church, New Albany, sponsored a mission Vacation Bible School in the predominantly black subdivision surrounding New Albany's Alabama Park. Sixty boys and girls from 2 to 17 enrolled this year, the largest ever. Using "Big A Club" material the Acteens and leaders held sessions for the children July 13-15 from 9 to 11 a.m., and again on July 22 and July 19.

Acteens Director Rose Weeden served as overall director of the school. She was assisted by Patricia Haynes and the pastor's wife, Lisa Thomas. Acteens helping in the mis-

sion Bible School were Amy Clayton, Leanne Cook, Dee Ann Haynes, Lisa Haynes, Christy New, Ginger New, Mona Sprouse, Sheli Wages, Alison Weeden, Holly Weeden, Jennifer Weeden, and Jill Weeden.

Each morning found the group beginning with the pledges followed by a Bible story time. Then the boys and girls were divided into groups where they studied questions related to the Bible stories. This was followed by contests such as bubble blowing and relay. Refreshments were followed by more games and an arts and craft time.

Each day an average of 47 attend-

ed the mission Bible School and 20 children had perfect attendance for each session. Each child was given a New Testament. "Many of these children are underprivileged and do not have an opportunity to hear about the love of Jesus and come in contact with outsiders who really care about them. This is a wonderful way to put our mission beliefs into action on the local level," said Gregg Thomas, pastor at Fredonia.

The boys and girls who attended Fredonia Baptist Church's Vacation Bible School gave their daily mission offering to help finance this school.

Revival Dates

Chunky, Chunky: Aug. 30-Sept. 4; Ronnie Ballard, pastor, Trinity, Carthage, preaching; Paul Chaney, Calvary, Meridian, music; Sunday services, 11 a.m., 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. services, 10:30 a.m., 7:30 p.m.; Wayne Campbell, pastor.

Bluff Springs, Magnolia: Sept. 4-6; W. A. (Billy) Smith, Sherwood, Albany, GA., evangelist; 7 nightly; 11 Sunday; dinner on the grounds, noon; followed by an afternoon singing featuring The Foundations; Randy Lewman, pastor.

First, Durant: Aug. 30-Sept. 3; Sunday services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; weekday services, noon and 7 p.m.; Perry Neal, evangelist; Sandy Land, music; Jerry Bishop, pastor.

Parkway, Morton: Aug. 27-30; homecoming, Sunday, noon meal; Tommy Miles, Morton, speaker, 7 p.m. each night.

Riverside, Pascagoula: Aug. 30-Sept. 2; homecoming, 35th anniversary, Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., note burning, special music, lunch served in fellowship hall, and preaching by former pastors at homecoming and revival; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Grady B. Parker, pastor.

First, Verona: Aug. 30-Sept. 4; Sunday, 7 p.m. and 11 a.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 p.m. Dan Robertson, pastor, Parkview, Greenville, evangelist; Paul Koonce, minister of music, First, Tupelo, music; David E. Hamilton, pastor.

Concord, Booneville: Aug. 30-Sept. 4; 7:30 nightly; Jerry Swimmer, Jewish preaching-singing evangelist from the Iuka, evangelist; Bill Dowdy, pastor.

Flora, Flora: Aug. 30-Sept. 3; Jerry Massey, First, Amory, leader; Tommy and Carol Sparkman, Parkway, Jackson, music.

Salem, Collins, pastor dies at 42

Larry T. Springfield, pastor of the Salem Church, Collins, Covington Association, died July 15, 1987, at the M.D. Anderson Hospital, Houston, Tex.

He was a native of Saraland, Ala. He was born July 30, 1945. Larry Springfield is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Ann Springfield; two sons, Mark and Matthew; one daughter,

Ashley; his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Springfield of Saraland, Ala.; and one sister, Phyllis Springfield of Birmingham, Ala.

He was a graduate of Mobile College and New Orleans Seminary.

Memorials may be made to "Bro. Larry's Memorial Fund," Salem Baptist Church, Box 1628, Collins, MS 39428 or to "Leukemia Cancer Fund."

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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON COMMENTARIES

"Let us not be stumbling blocks, but stepping stones"

By Julian W. Fagan III
Romans 14:1-15:13

Annually at FBC in Laurel, we observed a community Thanksgiving service. Our pastor, Bro. Mac (Dr. T. R. McKibbens), referred to this gathering as the "Bapto-Episco-Metho-Presby-Lutheran service." Although we had some doctrinal differences, Jesus was Lord, and we could worship him together. Denominationalism allows us to choose a worship and doctrinal zone in which we are most comfortable, for whatever reason. We accept that. We have a harder time accepting those within our chosen zone, and some outside it, who do not join our opinions.

Paul is not speaking in this passage about biblically defined sin; he is dealing with attitudes toward disputable matters. Sin is sin and should be dealt with as such! However, some areas of life are matters of personal opinion



Fagan

UNIFORM

based upon personal conscience which is determined by spiritual maturity. Paul says the more spiritually mature are strong in faith (14:2). The weaker brother is not as mature in faith. Both are believers, but they are not at the same stage in their Christian development.

The tendency on the part of each was to judge his brother concerning conduct. The conduct may have concerned food eaten, beverages drunk, or special Old Testament worship days observed. The one who judged did so from his perspective. Paul points out that such opinions are personal and should be held only after one is fully convinced in his own mind (14:5). The point Paul strongly makes is that even when you are fully convinced you are right in a biblically undefined area, the issue is not your rightness but righteousness; and righteousness always is exemplified in relationship and conduct (14:17). Therefore, one may be right within his own conscience and live as an unrighteous

stumbling block.

Christians then should stop passing judgment on one another and instead make every effort not to be a hindrance or stumbling block to another believer's growth (14:13).

Paul's illustration is food and drink. He was convinced the old taboos were not applicable to Christians. He was right, but what he longed for was to be righteous. So instead of displaying his rightness he demonstrated righteousness by not eating and drinking those foods that were a stumbling block to other believers. In other words righteousness gives up a right rather than hurt a fellow Christian. The kingdom of God is not one of eating and drinking and displaying my freedom and rights; it is a matter of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit (14:17).

We should strive to do that which builds up other believers and leads to peace. That means not practicing what is "right" in my own conscience in order to keep a brother from stumbling over me. Notice that one can do wrong by practicing what is "right" in his own eyes if that

action causes other believers to stumble (14:20-21). Consequently, the issue which was not sinful can become sin, just in trying to be "right."

It becomes incumbent that those strong in faith carry this burden of "right" denial. They are "to bear with the feelings of the weak" and not please themselves (15:1). What one believes about these "disputable matters," he should keep between himself and God and make sure before God that he is not condemned in what he approves (14:22). A strong believer should not live out his opinions if they are stumbling blocks, but should build up his neighbor (15:2).

We should remember that every believer is a servant of Christ. Are we to judge another's servant in an area where we do not have the Master's clear advice? The Lord has accepted him (14:3-4). We must learn to accept one another as fellow servants and encourage and enable one another to grow for the sake of the kingdom of God and for our good. Let us not be stumbling blocks but stepping stones!

Julian Fagan is pastor, First, Pontotoc.

Seven vials of God's judgment: seven bowls of wrath

By Rex Yancey
Revelation 15:5-7; 16:4-6, 10-17

John has told of the opening of the seven seals, the sounding of the seven trumpets, and now he must tell of the pouring out of the seven bowls of the wrath of God.

The martyrs are seen singing the song of Moses because they have been victorious in their contest with the forces of evil. They died savage deaths and yet arrived victorious. This song is found in Exodus 15:1-19 and was stamped upon the memory of the Jews. It was sung at every Sabbath evening service in the synagogue.

The song of Moses is almost entirely composed of quotations from the Old Testament. Also, there is not one single word in it about their own achievement. The song is a lyric outburst of the greatness of God. Heaven is a place where men forget themselves and remember only God.

In verses 5-7 the seven angels are given the seven bowls. These plagues come from the very presence and nature of God. The temple seems



Yancey

BIBLE BOOK

to represent the church. (See your quarterly for a different view.)

In chapter 16 there are many similarities between these plagues and the trumpet plagues. Like the trumpets, they represent woes upon nature and upon man; and, like the trumpets, a part of this symbolism is parallel with the Egyptian plagues. But there are marked differences between the bowls and the trumpets. The trumpet judgments were calls to repentance; the bowl judgments are visitations of punishment when hope of repentance is passed. The trumpet judgments were partial, touching only a third part of their objects; the bowl judgments are final, touching the whole of the object.

Verses 13-16 seem to be a symbolic interlude. It pictures the devil, the emperor, and the concilia rallying forces to battle against the forces of righteousness. In the original language there is a play on words. The unclean spirits came out of the mouths of evil forces. The mouth is

the organ of speech. Speech is one of the most influential forces in the world. The word for spirit is *pneuma* which is also the word for breath. To say, therefore, that an evil spirit came out of a man's mouth is the same as to say that an evil breath came out of his mouth. These three, the dragon, the beast, and the false prophet "breathed forth evil influences." True religion has no worse enemy and Satan no better ally than false propaganda.

Who is the false prophet? The beast is to be identified with the provincial organization set up for the enforcement of emperor worship. The false prophet stands for the organization which seeks to make men worship the emperor and abandon the worship of Jesus Christ. (See quarterly for different view.)

Armageddon is where these allies gather all of their forces. This location was a famous Hebrew battlefield. Here Gideon and his 300 defeated the Midianites. King Saul was defeated by the Philistines. Barak and Deborah overthrew the host of the Caananite king, Jabin. Abaziah died of Jehu's arrows. Pharaoh Necho overthrew Josiah. This place was burned into the minds of the Jewish people. Megiddo fitly

symbolized the worldwide distress of righteousness and evil engaged in deadly combat. (If one interprets Armageddon as a literal battle fought at Megiddo, then he must also interpret the leaders of evil in the battle as three frogs. Thus, we can see the difficulty of any of us interpreting this book.) It seems both figures are symbolical.

This Armageddon of Revelation has no location on the maps of the world; it is logical, not spatical. The battle is not one in which material, physical armaments will decide the issue; the battle is between righteousness and evil, and righteousness is the certain victor.

The three things that have already been noted in these lessons are noted in the final part of chapter 16. Natural calamity, internal rottenness, and external invasion brought Rome to her knees. God's action assured Christians in 95 A.D. of the certain victory of Christianity over the world system. In our day, it assures us of the certain triumph of Christ's cause over the cause of evil in every age. The mills of God may grind slowly, but in the end there is no escape for sin.

Rex Yancey is pastor, First, Quitman.

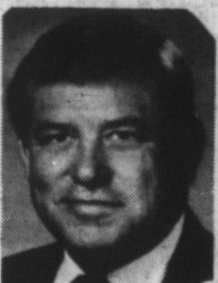
Contending with materialism, temptation and snare

By Al Finch
I Timothy 6:6-14, 17-19

An old song stated one of life's truths: "The Best Things in Life Are Free." In a materialistic age it is often easy to overlook that simple fact.

Accumulating wealth never becomes satisfying in itself. The more one has the more he desires.

Paul's equation for life is godliness plus contentment equals great gain (I Timothy 6:6-8). In I Timothy 6:5, Paul states that false teachers suppose that "gain is godliness." Yet Paul reverses their approach. Godliness added to a satisfaction that is not based on outside circumstances (contentment) is profitable. The "great gain" is not earthly treasure but the highest good in life.



Finch

LIFE AND WORK

Man is not measured by what he may accumulate. He leaves this world with no more of the material than he brought into it (I Timothy 6:7). Nothing the world can give makes him any more man. His real self consists in his word and spiritual being. Therefore, the material necessities of life are all that one needs for satisfaction in living (I Timothy 6:8). Whatever else one may have beyond food and raiment is not condemned. It is to be received with gratitude and can be useful and add comfort. Paul is not espousing poverty nor declaring property a crime. He is dealing with the absorbing desire for things material. Real contentment for the spiritual mind is independent of property or wealth.

Materialism creates its own system of fail-

ings (I Timothy 6:9-10). The more of this world a man accumulates the more he is tempted to neglect spiritual things. Imagine a young family, faithful Sunday by Sunday, to their church. For months they save for a pop-up camper they can use for family recreation. Once their dream is realized, the temptation to be away for the week-end increases. With being away they neglect their church. The possession is not evil in itself, but it offers a greater "temptation and snare."

It is not money but the love of it that is condemned. "Love of money," a desire for the material, is the motive if it takes root in life that breeds evil of all kinds. In the sands of life's seashore the wrecks of many sincere believers lie who focused their life on the material rather than the spiritual.

For the believer the good life is encouraged (I Timothy 6:11-14). The qualities of this good life are listed in I Timothy 6:11-12. The motiva-

tion is the good testimony of Jesus Christ and the promise of his return (I Timothy 6:13-14).

The believer also is challenged to a high standard (I Timothy 6:17-19). Their trust is in God, not "uncertain riches." God gives "richly all things to enjoy" in contrast to the uncertainty of materialism.

Those blessed materially should recognize their responsibility in service (I Timothy 6:18). Wealth is service. No one has the right to hoard for himself and neglect the spiritual use of the material.

One final thought of the high standard to which we are called. Life is measured by the use of our material wealth (I Timothy 6:19). Proper use of the material provides a good foundation in this life for the "time to come." Again it is attitude. When one makes the material secondary to the spiritual he lays the foundation for eternal life.

Al Finch is pastor, First, Greenwood.

dit

State

The Mayor of the City of New York, New York, is given the honor of being the official of the "Missis-
sippi" The goal is to

at the step sister to the missions offerings. Ever choked up over the offering, which, of course, There is not so much as home mission offering.

Baptist Record



THE EAGLES singing team from Singapore participate in the Listener Rally presented by Baptist Mass Communication Department in Bangkok, Thailand. — (Photo by Maxine Stewart)

Thai TV station gives free time to Baptists

By Maxine Stewart

The Thailand Baptist Mass Communication Department (BMC) in Bangkok, Thailand, uses the more common methods of the mass media — radio, a Christmas Television Special and Christian films — to share the gospel of Christ with the people of Thailand. Their aim is to broadcast the Christian message with a hope that the listeners will make contact with the department.

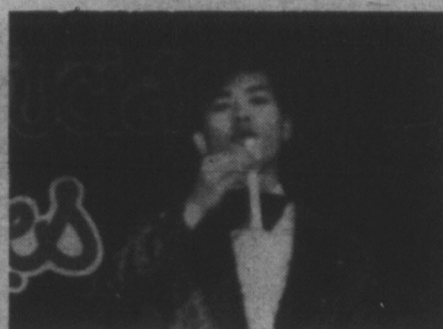
A television station in north Thailand has recently opened the opportunity for regular Baptist television programming — free of charge. Monthly programs are planned throughout this year and are projected for 1988. Prohibitive expenses for televising Christian programs, except for the free time for a Christmas Special, caused BMC to withdraw their Christian programs some years ago. The station in the north, however, extends over a wide area.

Money is NEVER solicited on any aired program. The listeners, however, are encouraged to contact

the department for free literature, including Bible Correspondence Courses. The department cannot know, otherwise, who they are or anything about their interests. During the past twelve months there have been responses to their aim.

The 1986 Christmas Television Special brought a response of more than 3,500 letters from 52 of the 73 provinces (states) in Thailand. Approximately 56,000 persons were estimated to have viewed evangelistic film programs. Of that number, 299 persons were reported to have made professions of faith in Christ during those programs.

In June 1987, a Listener Rally was held in Naulchand Hall of the Imperial Hotel in Bangkok. Featured on the rally program were THE EAGLES singing team from Singapore. (They have had a very effective ministry in Singapore for the past 18 years.) They presented a 45 minute program of song and testimony followed by a message from



Khun Attachai Nakpongpan, Thai Christian 'magician,' performs some 'magic tricks' at the Baptist Mass Communication Listener Rally in Bangkok, Thailand. — (Photo by Maxine Stewart)



Evangelist Peter Chao, a speaker on the recent Billy Graham Conference on Evangelism held in Amsterdam, speaks at the Listener Rally, accompanied by Thai translator Buakap. — (Photo by Maxine Stewart)

Peter Chao, a speaker on the recent Billy Graham Conference on Evangelism held in Amsterdam. Also featured was a Thai Christian 'magician,' Khun Attachai Nakpongpan and a Thai singing group. The program was interesting, entertaining and inspirational.

Donald Phlegar, a Mississippian, director of BMC reported an estimated 450 persons, most of whom were Christians, attended the rally. Reserved seating was by invitation only rather than open door program. Thirty-seven persons requested Bible Correspondence Courses, 60 persons requested free Christian books, 13 persons made a profession of faith, 10 persons stated they would like to attend a church, and two persons said they would like to be visited by Christians.

Maxine Stewart is missionary press representative in Thailand.



SOUTHERN BAPTIST RADIO-TV COMMISSION / FORT WORTH, TX 76150

"I've lost me"

QUESTION

Basically I think I'm a pretty likeable person, with a good group of friends and social activities. But sometimes I feel that somewhere along the line, in the process of trying to be accepted and included, I've lost me. I don't know how to separate what I really think and feel from what I'm supposed to think and feel. Am I really a person or just a carbon copy of everyone else?

ANSWER

It's hard to strike a balance between being a unique, independent individual, and being a part of a community. All of us want to be accepted and valued for ourselves. Yet we must sometimes change in order to be included. The tricky thing is to know when changing or conforming is a positive, constructive thing and when it is a negative experience which destroys your uniqueness as a person.

It comes down to a question of truly knowing yourself and making a realistic assessment of what's important to you. If you surrender your own individuality in order to conform to the group and be accepted, then you have lost the very thing you were trying to build up. Jesus said it this way: "What does it profit you to gain the whole world and lose your own soul?"

So think in terms of your goals for yourself. What kind of person do you want to be — both now, and in the future? Is your crowd helping you to achieve those goals? Do you like yourself when you are with them? Are you having to give up something that's important to you in order to keep their approval? Do you feel free to express your ideas, or are you only an echo of what others say or think?

As you answer these questions for yourself, you may have a better idea of whether you are paying too high a price for popularity. If your friends share your goals and have high standards, then your efforts to be like them and accepted by them can have a positive effect on your life. But remember that you also have unique abilities and gifts, so don't lose that special quality that makes you you.

Mississippi Baptist activities

- Sept. 3 Key Leader Seminar; Baptist Building; 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (CAPM)
Sept. 4-5 Chaplaincy Conference; Camp Garaywa, Noon, 4th Noon, 5th (CoMi)

SCRAPBOOK

You gave us a mountain

Must we always climb the mountain
Simply because it is there?
Or should we tackle that mountain
To shoulder our portion of care?

What of the ones who have fallen
And never attained the peak?
What of ideals that were squandered,
Or words that their lips failed to speak?

The trail to the top may be cluttered
With dreams that have fallen apart;
Frozen tears may have glazed the pathway,
Or icicles formed in the heart.

But, if we led the way up the mountain,
Carved footholds with purpose of mind,
Shared strength with the climbers who follow,
Those who seek their soul's glory to find —

Then, ascending the slope takes on meaning,
Becomes worthy of effort and care,
And we wouldn't be climbing that mountain
Simply because it is there.

—Maxine E. McAdory
Jackson

I remember him

I see a rose in bloom, and I remember Him
I see the sun break through the gloom and
I remember Him,
I see a grassy knoll and though the light is dim
Since He is in my heart, we're never far apart and
I remember Him!

I see a dusty trail and I remember Him
I see a boat in sail and I remember Him
I see the mountains high against a starlit sky,
In all the wonders that I see
I know He's here with me and I remember Him!

—Ruth Norsworthy Crager, State Line

A great many so-called open minds
should be closed for repairs.

Intelligence is like a river — the
deeper it flows the less noise it makes.

Baptist Record

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